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# BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIRS

OF

# M E D I C I N E

IN

# G R E A T B R I T A I N

FROM THE REVIVAL OF LITERATURE

TO THE TIME OF HARVEY.

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By JOHN AIKIN, SURGEON.

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--- Genus innocuum, vitæque ad publica nati  
Commoda, divinas tantum didicere per artes  
Exercere ævum, atque humanæ præesse saluti.

FRACAST.

L O N D O N :

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## P R E F A C E.

THE Volume here presented to the public is not such as the author wished it, but such as he has been able to make it. Instead of a complete *Medical Biography of Great Britain*, he has been obliged to confine himself to some *Biographical Memoirs of Medicine*; and these, instead of deriving from obscure and antient records, he has drawn only from sources opened *since the revival of literature*. How far his plan is really the worse for this deviation, he submits to the judgment of each reader; but he thinks



iv P R E F A C E.

himself obliged to say a few words respecting the *cause* of it.

THE first circumstance which made him sensible of having sketched out a plan beyond his abilities fully to execute, was the perusal of Dr. Milward's *Invitatory Letter*, published in 1740; the design of which was to solicit the aid of the learned in composing just such a work as that projected by himself. The numerous and abstruse objects of enquiry started in this pamphlet, are sufficient to deter any person from the pursuit, who is not possessed of a great deal of knowledge and leisure, together with the opportunity of free access to every help for studying successfully questions of remote antiquity. Accordingly, it appears from the event, that Dr. Milward's scheme was unfinished and forgotten.

THE assistances the present writer had flattered himself with the hope of obtaining,



# P R E F A C E. v

obtaining, by means of his *Address to the Public*, fell so much short of his expectations, that even had the subject been much less extensive, he must have abandoned the prosecution of his original design. He soon perceived, that of all the materials for information, *printed books* were alone what he had any chance of procuring. This, at once, reduced his plan to the compass of a comparatively modern period. He was further mortified with the prospect of not accomplishing even *this* part of his design so perfectly as he thought to have done. After the most extensive enquiries, many of the publications he had lists of were no where to be found; and a few, though known to exist, were locked up in libraries, the rules of which did not allow of their being lent for perusal, on any interest or security whatsoever.

AFTER this free confession, it will probably be asked, “ Why publish at  
all

all a work acknowledged so incomplete?" The author can only answer, that in the judgment of many respectable friends, the materials he had collected were too valuable to be thrown away; and that he could not suppose his work would be improved by *mere delay* of publication. And after all, he could not think his deficiencies extremely interesting to the medical history of the period he has chosen. Of the more important printed works, several copies must be imagined to exist, all of which could scarcely escape a diligent search continued for some years. He trusts it will appear that they have not; and that a tolerable idea may be formed of the state of medicine and its practitioners, during a considerable portion of time, from the *memoirs* he has been able to compile.

SOME of the author's most esteemed medical correspondents have hinted a  
desire

desire, that he would confine his researches to the progress of the *art*, without troubling himself with the *biography* of its *professors*. He is sensible that this is indeed the most useful and essential part of his undertaking; and he has, accordingly, by an account of every thing that seemed new and important in all the publications which came before him, attempted to fulfil this intention. But he could not persuade himself to forego the opportunities which offered of adding somewhat to the stock of *British Biography*; and of throwing due lustre on the characters of men, not less estimable for liberal manners and literary endowments, than for skill in their proper profession.

SHOULD this work be favoured with the public approbation and encouragement, the author may probably be induced to pursue the same  
plan



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plan through succeeding periods, which present objects still more interesting, and less liable to deficiency in the execution. He has already made some advance in this design.

HE concludes, with returning his grateful acknowledgments to those Gentlemen who have forwarded his work, as well by their judicious advice, as by the books they have transmitted. If the performance he ventures to offer them, shall in any degree answer their expectations of information or amusement, he doubts not but they will consider themselves as sufficiently repaid.

C H R O -



# CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES

## PERSONS OF WHOM MEMOIRS

ARE GIVEN IN THIS WORK.

	Born.	Flourished.	Died.
<b>R</b> ICHARDUS ANGLICUS, —	—	1230.	—
NICOLAS DE FERNEHAM, —	—	—	1241.
JOHN GILES, of De } SANCTO ÆGIDIO, }	—	13th. century.	—
HUGH OF EVESHAM, —	—	—	1287.
GILBERTUS ANGLICUS, —	—	end of 13th. cent.	—
JOHN OF GADDESSEN, —	—	begin. of 14th. cent.	—
WILLIAM GRISAUNT, —	—	an old man in 1350.	—
JOHN ARDERN, —	—	1370.	—
JOHN MARFELDE, —	—	begin. of 15th. cent.	—
<b>14</b> NICHOLAS HOSTRESHAM, —	—	1443.	—
<b>22</b> JOHN PHREAS, —	—	—	1465.
<b>23</b> THOMAS LINACRE, —	1460,	—	1524.
<b>47</b> WILLIAM BUTTS, —	—	—	1545.
JOHN CHAMBRE, —	—	—	1549.
<b>+</b> ANDREW BORDE, —	—	—	1549.
	b	EDWARD	

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	Born.	Flourished.	' Died.
EDWARD WOTTON,	1492.	—	1555.
THOMAS VICARY,	—	1540.	—
GEORGE OWEN,	—	—	1558.
ROBERT RECORDE,	—	—	1558.
ALBAYN HYLL,	—	—	1559.
THOMAS PHAYER,	—	—	1560.
THOMAS GIBSON,	—	—	1562.
WILLIAM TURNER,	—	—	1568.
JOHN CLEMENT,	—	—	1572.
THOMAS GALE,	1507.	—	—
JOHN KAYE, or CAIUS,	1510,	—	1573.
WILLIAM CUNINGHAM,	—	1559.	—
139 WILLIAM BULLEYN,	—	—	1576.
RICHARD CALDWALL,	—	—	1583.
JOHN SECURIS,	—	1566.	—
GEORGE ETHERIDGE,	1518.	—	—
JOHN JONES,	—	1572.	—
GEORGE BAKER,	—	1574.	—
JOHN BANISTER,	—	1575.	—
WALTER BAILEY,	1529,	—	1592.
THOMAS MOUFET,	—	— about 1600,	—
JOHN HALLE,	1529.	—	—
JOHN DAVID RHESE,	1534,	—	1609.
WILLIAM BUTLER,	1535,	—	1618.
WILLIAM GILBERT,	1540,	—	1603.
WILLIAM CLOWES,	—	1573.	—
PETER LOWE,	—	—	1612.
FRANCIS ANTHONY,	1550,	—	1623.
RICHARD BANISTER,	—	an old man in 1622.	—
MATTHEW GWINNE,	—	—	1627.

# CHRONOLOGICAL SERIES.

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	Born.	Flourished.	Died.
PHILEMON HOLLAND,	1551,	—	1636.
THEODORE GOULSTON,	—	—	1632.
EDWARD JORDEN,	1569,	—	1632.
JOHN WOODALL,	1569.	—	—
THEOD. TURQUET }	1573,	—	1655.
DE. MAYERNE, }			
ROBERT FLUDD,	1574,	—	1637.
THOMAS WINSTON,	1575,	—	1655.
TOBIAS VENNER,	1577,	—	1660.
WILLIAM HARVEY,	1578,	—	1658.
FRANCIS GLISSON,	1597,	—	1677.

## E R R A T A.

Page 9, line ult. In following my authority too implicitly, I have not recollected that N. de Ferneham is said (p. 5.) to have been court physician to king Henry III.

P. 71, l. 7, *for electoi read electio.*

197, 5, *for pharmacoepa read pharmacopœia.*

222, 18 and 21, *for pharmacopœa read pharmacopœia.*



## INTRODUCTION.

**T**HE History of Medicine and of Medical Practitioners in this island during those dark ages which so long overshadowed the countries of Europe, affords very little to interest the curiosity of those who have not already acquired the habit of valuing antiquity for its own sake. At a period when all merit, even in the most celebrated schools of physic, consisted in understanding and commenting upon the fanciful reveries of Arabian writers, who debased all the knowledge they had received from purer sources, what improvements could be expected among the ignorant and illiterate professors of a country, remote from the cen-

## 2 INTRODUCTION.

tre of science, and sunk in barbarism beyond its neighbours? Or what biographical memoirs, either instructive or amusing, can be collected from the obscure accounts of persons void of all spirit of rational enquiry, and untinged with the elegancies of polite literature?

THE learned and ingenious Dr. Freind has, indeed, thought it worth while in his *History of Physick* to give a view of some of the writings still extant of our earliest medical ancestors, by way of specimens of the doctrines and practice of the times. This he has done in so judicious and agreeable a manner, that it would be equally presumptuous and unnecessary to attempt executing it after him. To his well-known work, therefore, I refer for information as far as his plan leads him; contenting myself with mentioning as the general result, that the greatest part of their writings, particularly all the *rationale* of diseases, was a compilation from the Arabians and their copyists; and that the rest consisted of a heterogeneous collection of receipts and directions

## INTRODUCTION. 3

directions, drawn from the copious stores of empiricism and superstition.

SOME accounts of the lives of several other early practitioners and writers, whose works are not come down to us, are extant in the memoirs of our literary biographers, Leland, Pits, and Bale. These, though very jejune and dry, are yet worthy of a perusal, as serving to give the best insight into the education, character and course of studies of physicians in those ages. I shall therefore select from the above writers such of these articles as may sufficiently answer the purpose of the present *Introduction*; which is, to give a general idea of the state of physic in these countries, till the dawning of a more enlightened period, which will offer more valuable and interesting objects to our enquiries.

THE first English medical writer recorded by these authors is named

RICHARDUS ANGLICUS. He flourished about the year 1230. He is said to have studied first at Oxford, and then at

B 2 Paris.

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Paris. As a proof of his general reputation we find him mentioned by Simphorianus Champerius in his treatise on medical writers, as one of the most eminent of his profession. The following ample list of his works is given.

<i>De Crisi.</i>	<i>De Phlebotomia.</i>
<i>Summa de criticis diebus.</i>	<i>Anatomia, Galenimore.</i>
<i>De Pulsibus.</i>	<i>Correëtorium Alchimie.</i>
<i>De Modo conficiendi &amp; medendi.</i>	<i>De Febribus.</i>
	<i>Speculum Alchimie.</i>
<i>Tractatus de urinis.</i>	<i>De Re medica.</i>
<i>De Regulis urinarum.</i>	<i>Repressiva.</i>
<i>De Signis morborum.</i>	<i>De Signis februm.</i>
<i>De Signis prognosticis.</i>	

LELAND says he wrote other works, which were not preserved.

NICOLAS DE FERNEHAM was educated at Oxford, where, we are told, he exhibited early proofs of uncommon genius, and attained to great proficiency in the learning of the age. Having a particular inclination to botany and physic, he pursued these studies, first at Paris, and then at Bologna, under the best masters; and applied diligently to the  
works



## INTRODUCTION. 5

works of Hippocrates, Galen, and Dioscorides. After a long absence, he returned to England, and was held in high estimation both as a physician and a scholar. He was called to court by King Henry III. and entertained as his domestic physician at a large salary. At length, when (as Pits observes) the good old man was entirely attached to reading the scriptures, and meditating on spiritual things, after having refused the see of Chester, he was made bishop of Durham, by the interest of Otho, the pope's legate. In this city he died in the year 1241. Matthew Paris mentions him with particular applause. His medical works were, *Practicæ Medicinæ*, lib. I. *De viribus herbarum*, lib. I. and several others of which the titles are not recorded.

JOHN GILES, in Latin JOANNES ÆGIDIUS, or *de* SANCTO ÆGIDIO, was born at St. Alban's, and flourished in the thirteenth century. He was educated at Paris, and became physician in ordinary to Philip king of France, and a professor of medicine in the universities of Paris and Montpellier. He was afterwards created a doctor

## 6 INTRODUCTION.

of divinity, and was the first Englishman who entered among the Dominicans, with whom he became a celebrated preacher. In his old age he was famous for his divinity lectures at Oxford. Matthew Paris relates, that Robert Grossthead, the famous bishop of Lincoln, lying on his death-bed, sent for Master John Giles, learned in physic and divinity, that he might receive comfort from him both for body and soul. This prelate died in 1253; and it is probable Giles was of an advanced age at that time.

HE left behind him two medical pieces, entitled *Præticæ Medicinales* and *Futurorum Prognostica*; some commentaries on Aristotle; and a number of theological treatises.

HUGH OF EVESHAM, OR HUGO ATRATUS, was born at Evesham in Worcesterfhire. After perfecting himself in philosophy, mathematics, and the other liberal arts in both our English universities, he travelled through all the celebrated seminaries of learning in France and Italy in pursuit of medical knowledge. In this he made so great a proficiency,

ficiency, as to become, we are told, the first of his profession, not only in his own country, but of the age he lived in, which was the thirteenth century. He was also very eminent for mathematical and astronomical knowledge; and according to the custom of the age, united the clerical character with the medical, being a prebendary in the cathedral of York, procurator for the archbishop of York at the court of Rome, an archdeacon of Worcester, and rector of Spofford in the diocese of York. In consequence of his high reputation, he was sent for to Rome in the year 1280, by pope Martin IV. to assist in the decision of certain newly promulgated and difficult questions in physic. What these were, we are not informed; however, our countryman acquitted himself so much to the satisfaction of the court of Rome, and excited so great an admiration of his learning, that the pope, in the year 1281, created him a cardinal priest, by the style of Cardinal of St. Laurence in Lucina. From that time he applied himself solely to theological studies; and at length, in the year 1287, he died of the plague with several other cardinals in the

conclave held after the death of pope Honorius IV. Bale, who seldom allows a pope or cardinal to die a natural death, says he was poisoned; and this report is also adopted in the *Annal. Vigorn.* Pits relates that many important remains of this person were extant in his time at Rome, especially in the church of St. Laurence, or Lorenzo, in Lucina, where he was buried, and a splendid monument erected for him. He was a benefactor to this church, as appears from the following passage in the *Roma antica e moderna, tom. I. p. 434*, under the description of this edifice. "Ugo Cardinal Inglese, e Innico Avalos, Spagnuolo, suoi titolari, gli fecero in diversi tempi vari ristori ed abbellimenti."

He is said to have published the following works.

*Super opere februm Isaac. Problemata quædam.*  
*Medicinales canones. De Genealogiis humanis.*

GILBERTUS ANGLICUS is placed by Bale (who calls him *Gilbertus Legleus*, and says he was physician to Hubert, archbishop of

of Canterbury) in the reign of king John, about the year 1210. But Leland makes him more modern; and from some passages in his writings it appears that he must have flourished towards the end of the thirteenth century. The memoirs of his life are very scanty; and he is chiefly known as the author of a *Compendium of physic*, still extant, and which is the earliest remaining writing on the practice of medicine among our countrymen. This is one of the books commented on by Dr. Freind; who, with great impartiality, while he is obliged to take off somewhat from the high character given of the author by Leland, yet allows him a share of merit which may place him on a level with the medical writers of that age. To Dr. Freind's History I refer for the particulars worthy of notice in Gilbert's works; as likewise for the very entertaining and well-written account of

JOHN OF GADDESSEN, author of the famous *Rosa Anglica*. He flourished towards the beginning of the fourteenth century, and seems to have had very extensive and lucrative practice; and was the first Englishman who

was



was employed as a physician at court. The ignorance, superstition and low quackery which appear throughout his practice, and which are painted with much life and humour by Freind, do no great honour to the character of the profession in that age, and shew with how much abatement we are to take the high-flown panegyricks contained in the accounts of our biographers. On perusing the *Rosa Anglica*, I found one passage not noticed by Freind, which may be worth attention. My readers will probably be surprised to find that the method of producing fresh from salt water by simple distillation should be familiarly mentioned by an author of this remote period. In a chapter of John of Gaddesden's on sweetning salt water, he gives the four following methods of performing it.

- 1st. Repeated percolation through sand.
- 2dly. Boiling salt water in an open vessel, and receiving the steam on a cloth, which, when sufficiently impregnated, is to be wrung out. (This, in fact, is a kind of distillation.)
- 3dly. *Distillation in an alembic with a gentle heat.*
- 4thly. Setting a thin cup of wax to swim in a vessel of salt water, when the sweet

water



## INTRODUCTION. II

water will drain through the pores of the wax,  
and be received in the cup.\*

I SHALL only further observe concerning this person, that though he undoubtedly devoted himself to the practice of his profession, he possessed the prebend of St. Paul's in the stall of Ealdland. It seems probable from this and other instances, that the procurement of a sinecure place in the church was a method in which the great sometimes paid the services of their physicians,

WILLIAM GRISAUNT pursued his philosophical studies in Merton college, Oxford; where by plunging into the depths of mathematics and astronomy, he excited a violent suspicion, as fryar Bacon had done before him, of being engaged in magical practices. It was probably on this account that, when arrived at years of maturity, he went into France, where he devoted himself entirely to the study of medicine, first at Montpellier, and then at Marseilles. In this latter city

\* *Rosa Anglic.* fol. 135.

he

he fixed his residence, and lived by the practice of his profession, in which he acquired great skill and eminence. He is said assiduously to have pursued the method instituted by the Greek physicians, of investigating the nature and cause of the disease, and the constitution of the patient; from which, and from the suspicions he laboured under in the earlier part of life, we may conclude him to have been of a genius superior to his time. We are told that he was an old man in 1350; and that he had a son who was first an abbot of canons regular at Marfeilles, and at length arrived at the pontificate under the name of Urban V.

THE following list is given of Grifaunt's works.

*Speculum Astrologiæ.*      *De Motu capitis.*  
*De Qualitatibus astrorum.* *De Causa ignorantie.*  
*De Magnitudine solis.*      *De Urina non visa.*  
*De Quadratura circuli.*    *De Judicio patientis.*  
*De Significationibus eorundem.*

JOHN ARDERN is another of our early writers whose works come within the notice  
of

of Dr. Freind. I shall therefore only mention that he was a Surgeon of great experience, and the first who is recorded as having become eminent in that branch among our countrymen—that his residence was in the town of Newark, from the year 1348 to 1370, when he removed to London, whither his reputation had long before reached—and that although a great mixture of empiricism and superstition appears in his practice, yet several useful observations are to be found in his writings, and he may be reckoned among those who have really improved their profession. A treatise of his on the *Fistula in Ano* was thought worthy of being translated and published by John Read in 1588.

DR. FREIND remarks, that it appears from Ardern to have been the custom of the times for security to be required by surgeons from their patients for payment when the cure was effected. I shall observe on this head that the same thing was practised in France at the beginning of the present century; for we are told, in the *elogé* of Monsieur Mareschal, in the *Memoirs of the Royal Academy of Surgery*

at

at Paris, that when he was appointed first surgeon to Louis XIV. in 1703, he generously threw into the fire obligatory bonds from his patients to the value of 20,000 livres.

JOHN MARFELDE was educated at Oxford, and settled in the practice of his profession in London, of which city he was a native. He is said to have flourished in the reign of Henry VI. He was in great fame both for learning and medical skill; and wrote several treatises in physic, one of which only was extant in the time of Bale and Pits, entitled *Praxis Medicinæ*. This was composed in imitation of the work of Gilbertus Anglicus; and the character given of it is, that though inferior to Gilbert's in the speculative, it was greatly superior in the practical part.

NICHOLAS HOSTRESHAM flourished about the year 1443, and is, from his name, supposed by Fuller to have been a native of Horsham in Suffex. He is said to have been a very eminent physician, and in high esteem among

among the nobility as well for his conversation as his medical skill. He wrote several books, of which the following list is given.

*Viaticorum necessariorum*, lib. VII.

*Antidotarium*, lib. I.

*Contra dolorem renum*, lib. I.

*De Febris*, lib. I.

*Præticæ medicinæ*, lib. I.

*De Modo conficiendi & dispensandi*, lib. I.

Besides others, the titles of which are lost.

I CANNOT better conclude this short view of the state of physic and its practitioners among us at what may be called its barbarous period, than by presenting to the reader the character of a *doctor of physic* as drawn by a cotemporary poet, remarkable for his natural and lively descriptions. Chaucer, in the *Prologue* to his *Canterbury Tales*, among the various personages who compose the respectable company of pilgrims at the sign of the Taberde, introduces a physician, whom he thus characterizes. (It is to be observed that this pilgrimage is supposed to have happened in the year 1364.)

THE



## THE DOCTOR OF PHYSIK.

With us there was a Doctor of Physik,  
 In al the worldé was ther non hym lyk,  
 To speke of Physik and of Surgerye;  
 For he was groundit in Astronomy.  
 He kept his pacient a ful gret del  
 In hourys by his Magyk Naturel;  
 Wel couth he fortunen the ascendent  
 Of his ymagys for his pacient.  
 He knew the cause of every maladye,  
 Were it or hot or cold, or moist or drye,  
 Where they engendere, and of what humour.  
 He was a veray parfyte practysour.  
 The cause yknowe, and of his harm the rote,  
 Anon he gaf(1) to the syk man his bote.(2)

Full redy had he his Apothecaryes,  
 To fendyn him his droggis, and letewaryes,(3)  
 For eche of hem made other for to wyne,  
 Her(4) frenschepe was not nowé to begynne.

Wel knew he the old *Esculapius*,  
 And *Dioscordes*, and eke *Rufus*;

1. Gave. 2. Remedy. 3. Electuaries. 4. Their.

*Old Hyppocras, Lylye, and Galien,  
Serapion, Raxis, and Avycen,  
Averois, Damascyen, and Constantyn,  
Bernard, and Gadesleun, and Gilbertyn.*

Of his diete mesurable was he,  
For it was non of superfluite,  
But of gret nuryfchyng, and digestible:  
His study was but lytyl in the bible.  
In fanguyn (5) and in perfe (6) he clad was al  
Lined with taffata and with fendal; (7)  
And yit he was but esy of dispenche,  
He kepté that he won in pestelence;  
For gold in phyfik is a cordial;  
Therefore he lovede gold in special.

A FEW remarks on this curious portrait  
may not be uninteresting.

THIS Doctor is represented as qualified to  
speak of surgery as well as phyfic; though the  
practice of it was a separate branch then as

5. Blood-colour. 6. A bluish-grey, or sky-colour.  
7. A fine silken stuff.

well as now, as we know by the example of the celebrated surgeon Ardern, who flourished at this very time.

THE fundamental science on which his knowledge was built is said to be *Astronomy*; by which is understood that fanciful part of it, chiefly, which we now term Astrology. By the assistance of this, he was enabled to make election of fortunate hours for the administration of his remedies, and to calculate the nativities of his patients, in order to discover which of the heavenly bodies was lord of the ascendant at their birth; and likewise, by *magic natural*, to make sigils or characters stamped in metal, with the signature of that constellation which governed the part of the body where the disease was seated.

HIS reasonings concerning the causes of distempers were founded on the Galenical doctrines of the four different qualities of heat, cold, dryness, and moisture, operating on the different humours of the body.

As

As well as his modern brethren he had his apothecaries under him, who furnished him with his *drugs* and *electuaries*; that is, his simples and compounds, the most noted of which last class were in the form of electuaries.

AMONG the masters from whom he derived the principles of his art, we find the venerable father of physic; some of the elder Greeks; several of the Arabian school; the modern Greeks, Damascenus Presbyter, and Constantine the Monk; Raymond Lully (called here Lylye;) Bernard de Gordonio, author of the celebrated *Lilium Medicinæ*; and his own countrymen, Gilbert and Gaddesden.

FROM the sarcasm thrown out concerning his unacquaintance with the scriptures, we may judge that he did not, like many of that and an earlier age, unite the clerical with the medical character; and from the description of his dress and equipment, we may conclude him to have been a person of some figure and dignity. Upon the whole, with



## 20 INTRODUCTION.

respect to the manner of conducting the business of his profession, and the rank he occupied in society, he appears to have approached nearer to the same character in modern times than might have been imagined.

BIOGRA-

B I O G R A P H I C A L  
M E M O I R S O F M E D I C I N E  
I N G R E A T B R I T A I N

FROM THE REVIVAL OF LITERATURE,

**I**T is impossible exactly to mark out the commencement of such a period as that of the revival of literature. Several gradual steps led in succession to this desirable event; and the proportional advance towards it was much greater in some countries than in others. In Italy there existed elegant writers formed on the best models of the ancients, at a time when all the rest of Europe was sunk in barbarism. If any one circumstance, however, may be pointed out as peculiarly instrumental in propagating liberal

and useful learning throughout the western world, it is perhaps that of the taking of Constantinople by the Turks in the year 1453, which occasioned the dispersion of several learned men skilled in the Greek language, who carried their knowledge and their books to their places of refuge. Accordingly, we find soon after this period a number of translations of the Greek authors, as well medical as others, undertaken by the literati of various countries. Medicine gained by this very essentially, as it was freed from the mixture of Arabian folly and extravagance by a direct application to the purer sources of the Greeks. And its professors were not less benefited by the acquisition of those ornamental parts of literature, which dispelled the barbarism of their language, and formed that union of the character of the polite scholar with that of the physician, which they have ever since, so much to their credit, maintained.

It is generally imagined that the celebrated *Linacre* was the first of our countrymen in whom this combination subsisted; but great  
as

as his merit was in this respect, we cannot without injustice overlook the claims of an earlier ornament of the profession, concerning whom, indeed, our memoirs are less copious than might be wished. This was

## J O H N P H R E A S

TO whom Leland gives his testimony in the following words. “*Is ex numero Anglorum primus mihi quidem esse videatur, qui barbarie patriam fæde gravatam labore honesto, atque adeo utili, plane valetudini pristinæ, qua imperantibus Romanis supra hominum opinionem omnem floruit, integre restituit.*” From this author’s account of his life the ensuing memoirs are collected.

JOHN PHREAS was born in London at the end of the 14th, or beginning of the 15th century. He was educated at Oxford, and became fellow of Balliol college. Having taken holy orders, he was settled at Bristol by means of a friend, as minister of St. Mary’s church on the mount in that city. In this situation he continued to pursue with the



greatest ardour the literary studies for which he had made himself famous at the university. At length, being informed by some merchants trading from Bristol to Italy, of the number of ingenious men then flourishing in that seat of the Muses, he determined to visit it; and as soon as he had collected a sum of money for his support, he set sail for that country. Guarini was then a famous teacher of philosophy at Ferrara. Phreas attended his lectures, and at the same time attached himself to the studies of civil law and medicine. In the latter science he proceeded so far as himself to lecture publicly at Ferrara, with a great resort of learned men. He afterwards did the same at Florence and Padua, in which last university he was presented with the degree of Doctor of Physic in a very respectful manner. From thence he went to Rome; and in that city displayed his medical and literary abilities with great reputation. John Tiptoft, Earl of Worcester, was then at Rome, having taken refuge there from the civil commotions which were at that time raging in England between the houses of York and Lancaster. This nobleman was  
educated

educated at Balliol college together with Phreas; and was the only English person of quality who patronized learning in that period. He honoured Phreas with very particular marks of favour at Rome, who in return dedicated several of his works to him.

THE extraordinary merit of Phreas attracted the notice of pope Paul II; and in return for his dedicating to him a translation of Diodorus Siculus, that pontiff created him bishop of Bath and Wells. This advancement, however, he did not live to enjoy; dying at Rome before consecration, in 1465, not without suspicion of being poisoned by a competitor. He is said to have left behind him a large fortune, acquired in Italy by the practice of physic.

PHREAS appears to have been a master of both the learned languages. His works are chiefly of the light and elegant kind. Leland mentions having read a copy of very harmonious verses, in which he makes Bacchus expostulate with a goat for browsing the tender vines. They were dedicated  
to

to the Earl of Worcester. The subject of another little piece is *De coma parvi facienda*. A circumstance perhaps more to his credit than any other, is that he was requested by a noble Italian to write an epitaph for the tomb of Petrarch, to supply the place of a barbarous one before inscribed upon it. When the partiality of that nation for their favourite, and one whose extraordinary reputation had done them so much honour, is considered, it must seem a high compliment to a foreigner to be entrusted with the charge of transmitting his memory to posterity in the inscription on his monument. Leland mentions this piece as in his possession. He wrote, besides, several poems on various occasions, epistles, and epigrams. Also, a treatise on *Geography*; another on *Cosmography* (collected from Pliny;) and one entitled *Contra Diodorum Siculum poeticè fabulantem*. He translated from the Greek into Latin

*Xenophontis quædam*, lib. sex.

*Diodori Siculi bibliotheca*, lib. sex.

*Sinesius de calvitio*, lib. unus.

THIS

THIS last was printed at Basil in 1521. Part of the dedication to the Earl of Worcester, is quoted by Leland in his account of that nobleman : it is the only specimen of his writings I have met with ; and gives a very favourable idea of his Latin style. I find from a note of the ingenious and learned Mr. Warton, in his *History of English Poetry*, vol. II. p. 423, that some Epistles of Phreas are still extant in M. S. in the library of Baliol College and the Bodleian. Among these is one to his preceptor Guarini ; whose epistles are full of encomiums on Phreas. Five are written from Italy to his fellow-student and patron Gray, bishop of Ely. In one he complains that the bishop's remittances of money had failed, and that he was obliged to pawn his books and cloaths to Jews at Ferrara. These letters, Mr. Warton says, " discover an uncommon terseness and facility of expression."

PHREAS must be regarded as a premature production of English literature, fostered by the kindly influence of a more favourable climate ; in which, indeed, he passed the greater

greater part of his life. It is not surprising, therefore, that he had no immediate successors in his native country; and that the business of introducing a lasting reformation into the character of the English physician was reserved for the subject of our next article, after the intervention of a considerable number of years.

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## T H O M A S   L I N A C R E.

WAS born at the city of Canterbury in or about the year 1460. He was descended from the family of Linacres of Linacre-hall near Chesterfield in Derbyshire; whence Fuller and others have been led into the mistake of supposing Derby the place of his birth. He was educated at Canterbury under an eminent schoolmaster named William Tilly, or De Selling; and from thence removed to Oxford, where he was chosen fellow of All-Soul's college in 1484. His desire of further advancement in learning incited him to travel into Italy; and he accordingly accompanied his  
former



former master De Selling, who was appointed ambassador from Henry VII. to the court of Rome. De Selling left Linacre at Bologna under the care of his old friend Angelo Politian, with the most particular recommendations. This person was at that time accounted one of the most polite scholars and elegant Latinists in Europe; yet our young student by his assiduous application attained a greater purity of style in that language than Politian himself. At Florence, Linacre was so fortunate as to acquire the favour of the Duke Lorenzo de Medicis, a prince of great affability, and a munificent patron of literature; who granted him permission to attend the same preceptors with his own sons. Here he had the opportunity of perfecting himself in Greek under Demetrius Chalcondylas, a refugee from Constantinople at the time of its being taken by the Turks.

THUS accomplished in classical learning, he went to Rome, and applied himself to the study of medicine and natural philosophy under Hermolaus Barbarus; and is said to have been the first Englishman who understood

stood Aristotle and Galen in the original Greek. He translated many pieces of the latter author with great elegance, as we shall mention more at large hereafter; and in conjunction with Grocyn and Latimer, his illustrious colleagues in the advancement of ancient learning, undertook a translation of the former, which, however, was left imperfect. On his return, he took the degree of doctor of physic at Oxford, and was made public professor of medicine; or, rather, read lectures *gratis* in that faculty. He likewise taught the Greek language in the university. His reputation was, however, too great to suffer him long to continue in this situation; and he was called to court by king Henry VII, who entrusted him with the care both of the health and education of his son prince Arthur. We are likewise told that he was teacher of the Italian language to this prince and the princess Catharine. He was made successively physician to the kings Henry VII. Henry VIII. and Edward VI. and the princess Mary.

In this exalted station he was not forgetful of the interests of his profession, and of mankind

kind in general. Besides founding two lectureships of physic at Oxford, and one at Cambridge, he projected and accomplished a most important service to medicine by the institution of the *Royal College of Physicians in London*. He had beheld with concern the practice of this most useful art chiefly engrossed by illiterate monks, and empirics; a natural consequence of committing the power of approving and licensing practitioners to the bishops in their several dioceses, who certainly must, in general, have been very incompetent judges of medical ability. To strike at the root of this evil, he therefore obtained, by his interest with cardinal Wolsey, letters patent from Henry VIII, dated in the year 1518, constituting a corporate body of regular bred physicians in London, in whom should reside the sole privilege of admitting persons to practice within that city, and a circuit of seven miles round it; and also of licensing practitioners throughout the whole kingdom, except such as were graduates of Oxford or Cambridge, who by virtue of their degrees were independent of the college except within London and its precincts. The college

college had likewise authority to examine prescriptions and the drugs in apothecaries shops; and their censures were enforced with the power of inflicting fines and imprisonment. The letters patent are said to be granted at the request of the following persons; John Chambre, Thomas Linacre, and Fernandus de Victoria, physicians to the king; Nicholas Halswell, John Fraunces, and Robert Yaxley, physicians; and cardinal Wolsey. Linacre was the first president of the new college, and continued in that office during the remainder of his life. Its assemblies were held at his house in Knight-Rider's street, which he bequeathed to the college at his death.

TOWARDS the latter part of his life, in the year 1519, Linacre entered into holy orders; the motives to which step are not a little dubious. If, as some assert, the only benefice conferred upon him was a chantorship in the cathedral of York, it would be most obvious to suppose that a superstitious regard to the clerical character was his chief inducement. But others mention his appointment to several  
other

other church preferments ; none of them, however, very profitable ; and most of them resigned soon after his induction to them. From a passage in an epistle of his to Warham, archbishop of Canterbury, it would seem that the acquisition of an easy and honourable retreat had been his principal object. “ Statu-  
 “ eram, amplissime Præsul, pro ocio, in quod  
 “ me honorifico collato sacerdotio ex negocio  
 “ primus vindicasti, merito primos ejus fructus  
 “ tibi dedicare.” It appears that about this time he was exceedingly afflicted with that painful disease which at length put an end to his life, and must now have greatly incapacitated him from business. Whatever his motives were, it is said, however, that on the assumption of this new character he applied himself to those studies which are more peculiarly connected with it ; and to this purpose a remarkable anecdote is told by Sir John Cheke. He relates, that Linacre, a little before his death, when worn out with sickness and fatigues, first began to read the New Testament ; and that when he had perused the fifth, sixth, and seventh chapters of St. Matthew, he threw the book from him with great violence,



lence, passionately exclaiming, "either this is not the gospel, or we are not christians!" —a declaration, if rightly understood, equally honourable to the morals he found there inculcated, and satirical to those of the age. It is, nevertheless, agreed on all hands that the character of this eminent person, whether as an upright and humane physician, a steady and affectionate friend, or a munificent patron of letters, was deserving of the highest applause. Were other testimonies wanting, it were sufficient in justification of this eulogium to mention that he was the intimate friend of Erasmus. That great and worthy man frequently takes occasion to express his affection and esteem for his character and abilities; and writing to an acquaintance, when taken ill at Paris, he pathetically laments his absence from Linacre, from whose skill and kindness he might receive equal relief. We find from another letter of Erasmus that he afterwards imagined himself injured by Linacre; but, with much generosity, he declares he shall oppose to this one injury the many benefits he had received from him.

LINACRE died, in great agonies from the stone, October 20, 1524, aged 64; and was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral, where a monument was afterwards erected to his memory by his admirer and successor in fame, Dr. Caius.

HAVING thus gone through all the important occurrences of the life of this eminent physician, which have been transmitted to posterity, I shall bestow a particular consideration on his literary character, as so intimately connected with the annals of learning, in an age memorable for the revival of it. And this method of separating the biographical from the critical part of these memoirs I shall generally follow, for the sake of a more distinct view of each of these objects.

THE advantages this person received in his education seem to have been not a little uncommon in that age; for Erasmus, reciting the names of many of the most eminent physicians in Europe who studied the Greek language in their declining years, mentions Linacre and Ruellius as the only persons of their

profession who had had the good fortune to study it when young. Translations from the Greek authors into Latin were indeed the chief occupations of the literati of those times, and several of the Italian scholars had employed their pens in these useful works; but no Englishman except Phreas seems to have undertaken this difficult task, at least with success, before Linacre. His first essay was a translation of *Proclus on the Sphere*, concerning which, Erasmus gives the following relation: that it was dedicated to king Henry VII.; but that Bernard Andreas, tutor to prince Arthur, maliciously insinuated to the king that the book had been translated before (as indeed it had, but in a wretched manner); whence his majesty was so highly disgusted, as to condemn the offering, and ever after to entertain an extreme aversion for Linacre. In this account, however, there is a mistake, as the book was dedicated to his pupil prince Arthur. It was printed in 1499 by Aldus Manutius, with a recommendatory preface by that learned man.

BUT our author's literary reputation was principally raised by his translations from  
Galen;

Galen; in which he not only shewed a laudable attachment to the improvement of his profession, but exhibited a Latin style so pure and elegant, as ranked him among the finest writers of his age. The talent of composing in correct and classical Latin was at that time an object of more peculiar emulation than perhaps it has ever been since; and our physician seems to have been scrupulously attentive, even beyond most of his cotemporaries, to arrive at perfection in this point. Erasmus summarily describes him “Vir non exacti tantum, sed severi judicii;” and in one of his epistles thus gently reprehends his excessive delicacy. “At tu, si mihi permittis ut liberé tecum agam, sine fine premis tuas omnium eruditissimas lucubrationes, ut periculum sit ne pro cauto modestoque crudelis habearis, qui studia hujus seculi tam lenta torqueas expectatione tuorum laborum.” The learned Huet in his treatise *De claris Interpretatoribus* gives a similar judgment. “Adeamus Thomam Linacrum, quo nemo majorem orationis nitorem, castitatem, & condecientiam ad interpretationem contulit: quarum virtutum integritatem dum diligentius tueri studet,

“fidelem verborum affectationem, raro qui-  
 “dem, at aliquando tamen, omisit.” In the  
 famous controversy concerning Ciceronianism,  
 so warmly agitated among the scholars of that  
 age, Erasmus characterized many eminent  
 authors, both antient and modern, in his cele-  
 brated dialogue entitled *Ciceronianus*. Speak-  
 ing of Linacre, he thus describes his manner  
 of writing, with a particular reference to the  
 author in question. “Novi (Linacrum) vi-  
 “rum undequaque doctissimum, sed sic affec-  
 “tum erga Ciceronem, ut etiamsi potuisset  
 “utrumlibet, prius habuisset esse Quintiliano  
 “similis quam Ciceroni, non ita multo in  
 “hunc æquior quam est Græcorum vulgus.  
 “Urbanitatem nusquam affectat, ab affectibus  
 “abstinet religiosius quam ullus Atticus, bre-  
 “viloquentiam et elegantiam amat, ad do-  
 “cendum intentus. Aristotelem & Quintili-  
 “anum studuit exprimere. Huic igitur viro  
 “per me quantum voles laudum tribuas li-  
 “cebit; Tullianus dici non potest, qui stu-  
 “duerit Tullio esse dissimilis.” Sir John  
 Cheke, who in other instances has shewn  
 somewhat of an unfriendly spirit towards Li-  
 nacre, may be thought not uninfluenced by it  
 in



in the following account of his literary character, though interspersed with due commendations. “Fecit in Medicina tantum, quantum alius Latinus illius ætatis quifquam. Et quamdiu in Medicina se continet, tamdiu laudem singularem habet: sin foras ferpat, & Oratores carpat, videat ne ultra crepidam progrediatur. Nam quamquam in transferendis Galeni libris, laus ejus est prope singularis: tamen si de acumine & celeritate ingenii disputatur, aut de rebus popularibus graviter & diserte tractandis, in eo, si nunc viveret, aliis laudem concederet, Medicinam ipse assumeret. Et tamen cur tam fastidiosus esset in audiendo Cicerone, nescio. Illud videmus, omnes quos ille libros *De Latini sermonis structura* composuit, exemplis Ciceronis abundare: ut non tam fortasse neglexerit, quam animi quadam morositate videri voluit neglexisse.”

*De pronunc. Græc.*

THE first piece of Galen of which Linacre published a translation, was his treatise *De tuenda sanitate*, in six books. He says he was encouraged to offer this to the public by the

persuasions of several of the most learned men in Italy, Germany and France, and particularly Erasmus and Budæus. It was printed at Cambridge in 1517, and dedicated to king Henry VIII. as was likewise his translation of the fourteen books *De morbis curandis*, printed at Paris in 1526. The three books *De temperamentis*, and one *De inæquali temperie* appeared first at Cambridge in 1521; they were inscribed to Pope Leo X. The three books *De naturalibus facultatibus* which he mentions in an epistle to archbishop Warham, as designed to be dedicated to him, were, according to Mattaire, reprinted by Colinæus in 1528, together with one book *De pulsuum usu* from Galen, and some remarks of Paulus Ægineta *De diebus criticis*. I cannot find when or where these were first printed. In the same year our author's posthumous translation of Galen's four books *De symptomatibus* was printed by Colinæus, who also reprinted all his other translations,

Our learned physician was no less distinguished as a most accurate grammarian. Besides a small book of the rudiments of the  
Latin

Latin grammar, written in English for the use of the princess Mary, and afterwards translated into Latin by the celebrated Buchanan, he published a larger work entitled *De emendata structura Latini sermonis, libri sex*.\*

This

\* I HAVE been favoured by a gentleman of great learning and judgment with the following character of this piece : which I insert, not only as an honourable testimony in favour of our author, but as a means to recall in some measure the attention of scholars to a work which has fallen into an unmerited neglect.

“ THIS treatise is introduced by a recommendatory letter of Melancthon, a man not only eminent as a polemic divine, but likewise justly celebrated for his elegant and classic taste. He speaks of the work before us as inferior to none of it's kind then extant; and (notwithstanding the multitude of Latin grammars that have been since written) were he living at this time he would not perhaps think it necessary to make many exceptions. Linacre appears by this work to have been well acquainted with the ancient grammarians, Greek and Latin; writers who appear, from the use made of them by the elegant and learned author of Hermes, not to have deserved that neglect they have long lain under. This treatise must not however be considered as a mere compilation from former grammars; for the author appears to have thought much and deeply on the subject himself.

There

This was universally acknowledged to be a work of the most profound erudition; and indeed it appears to have engaged a portion of his time and attention, almost too great, with regard to the other more important occupations of his profession and station. This  
at

There are many just remarks applicable to language in general; but the substance of the book relates, as its title denotes, to the Latin tongue in particular, of which he seems to have had the most accurate knowledge. His work is divided into six books: the two first treat of *Analogy*, the remaining four of *Syntax*. His observations and rules are expressed with brevity and plainness, in the purest Latin, and illustrated by well chosen examples from the most approved writers. As he has treated his subject in its full extension, he will be thought by some to have used too many divisions and subdivisions, and to have overburthened the art of grammar with a multitude of unnecessary mechanical terms. This is indeed contrary to the present mode of teaching, which is calculated to make literature as easy and common as possible, that all persons may be, or at least appear to be, skilled in any part of learning, without the loss of much time, or the exertion of much labour. A more superficial way of writing, and such as requires few terms of art, is no doubt best adapted to this purpose; but let it be remembered, that it is impossible to go deep in any art or science without a great number of such. Nor let it be thought  
that

at least was the opinion of Erasmus, who in his *Moriæ encomium* exposes his friend, not indeed by name, but by sufficiently obvious marks, in the following good-natured banter.

“Novi quendam πολυτεχνοτατον, Græcum, Latinum, Mathematicum, Philosophum, Medicum, και ταυτα βασιλικον, jam sexagenarium, qui cæteris rebus omiffis, annis plus viginti se torquet ac discruciat in Grammatica; prorsus felicem se fore ratus, si tamdiu liceat vivere, donec certo statuât quomodo distinguendæ sint octo partes orationis, quod hæctenus nemo Græcorum aut Latinorum  
“ad

that grammar, as it leads only to the knowledge of words, is not deserving of so much attention; for as Dr. Reid, in his very judicious account of Aristotle's Logic has truly observed, the philosophy of grammar and that of the human understanding are more nearly allied than is commonly imagined. On the whole, the work in question has considerable merit, and well deserved the recommendation his friend Melancthon gave of it. Yet our author had no reason to be displeased at his other learned friend Dean Colet for not making it a school book; since it is rather to be considered as a grammatical commentary for the use of critics, than as one of those lesser systems suited to young persons at that early period of life usually spent in grammar schools.”



“ad plenum præstare valuit.” Linacre seems to have been engaged in this work by his friend Dean Colet, for the use of Paul’s school, of which he was founder; but when it was finished, the Dean preferred his own more familiar Introduction to Grammar, esteeming this more full and accurate treatise on the subject as rather fitted for critics than learners. Linacre resented this supposed neglect; and Erasmus, their common friend, interposed to conciliate matters. The work was, however, long considered as a classic, and several editions of it were printed. The first came out in December 1524, a little after the death of the author.

WITH respect to Linacre’s character in his own profession, as the medical writings he has left are only translations, we must form our judgment from the great attention he paid to the study of his art, and the universal reputation he acquired among his countrymen and cotemporaries for skill in the practice of it. An instance of his sagacity is recorded in a prognostic he made concerning his friend Lily, the celebrated grammarian, whose cer-  
tain

tain death he foretold if he should consent to the excision of a malignant tumour on his hip; and the event verified his prediction. Erasmus, in a letter to Bilibaldus Pirckheimerus, gives a very particular account of the manner in which he was relieved by the directions of Linacre in a fit of the gravel, where a small stone seems to have stuck in the ureter; and the rational simplicity of the method inculcates a favourable idea of our physician's practice. He says, his friend, whose assiduity in attendance was equal to his knowledge, sent for an apothecary to his chamber, and caused him in his presence to prepare the following remedy. Camomile flowers and parsley were tied up in a linen cloth, and boiled in a vessel of pure water till half the liquor was exhausted; the cloth was then wrung out, and applied hot to the affected part, and ease was presently procured. In a violent attack, this remedy, on the second application, brought away a stone as big as an almond.

AN English book, entitled *Compendious Regiment, or a Dietary of Health used at Mount-pillour*

*pillour*, is by some ascribed to Linacre, but probably through mistake, as there is a work of his cotemporary Andrew Borde with exactly the same title. Bishop Tanner in his list of Linacre's works mentions *Macer's Herbal prætysyd by doctør Lynacre translated out of Latin into English*. Lond. 12mo. and in the lists given by Bale and Pits are *Epistolæ ad diversos*, and *Diversi generis Carmina*. I know not whether any of these are now to be met with.

I SHALL conclude this article with inserting the epitaph written by Caius; which is both an elegant composition, and a judicious summary of the life and character of this eminent person.

*Thomas Lynacrus, Regis Henrici VIII. medicus; vir & Græcé & Latiné, atque in re medica longe eruditissimus. Multos ætate sua languentes, & qui jam animam desponderant, vitæ restituit. Multa Galeni opera in Latinam linguam, mira & singulari facundia vertit. Egregium opus de emendata structura Latini sermonis, amicorum rogatu, paulo ante mortem*

mortem edidit. Medicinæ studiosis *Oxoniæ* publicas lectiones duas, *Cantabrigiæ* unam, in perpetuum stabilivit. In hac urbe Collegium Medicorum fieri sua industria curavit, cujus & Præsidens proximus electus est. Fraudes dolosque mirè perosus; fidus amicis; omnibus juxta charus: aliquot annos antequam obierat Presbyter factus; plenus annis, ex hac vita migravit, multum desideratus, Anno Domini 1524, die 21 *Octobris*.

Vivit post Funera virtus.

*Thomæ Lynacro* clarissimo Medico,  
*Johannes Caius* posuit, anno 1557.

## WILLIAM BUTTE, OR BUTTS

WAS educated at Goneville-hall, Cambridge, of which he became a fellow. In 1529 he was admitted a member of the college of physicians, in whose annals he is entered with the following character. "Vir  
"gravis;

“ gravis ; eximia literarum cognitione, fingulari judicio, summa experientia, & prudenti consilio Doctor.” He was physician to king Henry VIII; and is immortalized by Shakespeare in his historical play on that monarch’s reign, where he is represented as making the king witness to the ignominious treatment bestowed on Cranmer by the lords of the council. Strype, in his life of that prelate, gives an account of this transaction, nearly the same with that of Shakespeare. As it is a curious piece of private history, and connected with our subject, I shall quote it.

“ The next morning, according to the king’s monition, and his own expectation, the council sent for him by eight of the clock in the morning. And when he came to the council-chamber door, he was not permitted to enter into the council-chamber, but stood without among serving-men and lacquies above three quarters of an hour; many counsellors and others going in and out. The matter seemed strange unto his secretary, who then attended upon him; which made him slip away to Dr. Butts, to whom he related the manner of the thing.

“ Who



“ Who by and by came, and kept my Lord  
“ company. And yet e’re he was called in-  
“ to the council, Dr. Butts went to the king,  
“ and told him that he had seen a strange  
“ fight. What is that, said the king? Mar-  
“ ry, said he, my lord of Canterbury is be-  
“ come a lacquey, or a serving-man! for to  
“ my knowledge, he hath stood among them  
“ this hour almost at the council-chamber  
“ door. Have they served my Lord so? it  
“ is well enough, said the king; I shall talk  
“ with them by and by.” *Life of Cranmer,*  
p. 125.

FROM this anecdote we may imagine our physician to have been a friend to the reformation; and indeed this is confirmed by various other circumstances. He first, as we are told by bishop Tanner, invited that celebrated reformer Hugh Latimer to court. He also recommended Dr. Thirlby to Cranmer, by whose favour he afterwards became bishop of Westminster, and then of Norwich. Fox, the martyrologist, and bishop Parkhurst, speak highly in praise of Dr. Butts.

STRYPE, in his life of Sir John Cheke, mentions this physician as a favourer of learning and reformation in general, and as the particular patron of Cheke, whom he assisted in his education and his introduction to the world with truly paternal kindness. In return, when he lay ill of the disorder which put an end to his life, Cheke addressed a letter to him, full of expressions of gratitude and pious condolence. It is in Latin, and is printed in Strype's work.

DR. BUTTS was knighted by Henry VIII. by the style of William Butts of Norfolk. He died November 17, 1545, and was buried in Fulham church. His portrait is in the picture of the delivery of the charter to the surgeon's company.

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## J O H N C H A M B R E.

**T**HIS person is principally remarkable for being first named among the king's physicians

ficians as a petitioner for the foundation of the college of physicians. He was educated in Merton College, Oxford, and became master of arts in 1502. He then travelled into Italy, and studied physic at Padua, where he took a Doctor's degree; in which he was incorporated at Oxford in 1531. He was made physician to the king (Henry VIII.) on his return; and also appears, from a passage in an epistle of Linacre's to archbishop Warham, to have been domestic physician to that prelate. Linacre calls him "*observantissimus paternitatis tuæ famulus.*"

He was in holy orders, and had several church preferments; among the rest that of dean of the royal chapel and college adjoining to Westminster hall, to which he built a very curious cloyster at a large expence. He was likewise made Warden of Merton college in 1526, which post he resigned in 1545, and died in 1549.

## ANDREW BORDE, OR BOORDE.

WE have hitherto met with grave and respectable personages, who maintained the dignity of a liberal and learned profession: but the character we are now to introduce is of an extremely different cast; and the reputation he acquired among his contemporaries must be considered as a symptom of still remaining barbarism in the manners of the times.

*Andrew Borde*, who styles himself in Latin *Andreas Perforatus*, was born at Pevensey in Suffex, towards the latter part of the fifteenth century. He was educated in Oxford; and before he had taken a degree, entered among the Carthusians in or near London. After some time he left them, and applied to the study of physic at Oxford; and then took a ramble through most parts of Europe, and part of Africa. On his return, he settled at  
Win-

Winchester, and practised in his profession with considerable reputation. In 1541 and 1542 we find him residing at Montpellier, where he probably took the degree of Doctor, in which he was soon after incorporated at Oxford. He then lived for some time at Pevensey, and afterwards returned to Winchester. Here he constantly practised the austerities of the order to which he had formerly belonged, and professed celibacy, writing with vehemence against such ecclesiastics as broke their vows by marriage. This, perhaps, was the reason why he was accused by a married bishop of violating his own pretensions to chastity by more illicit indulgencies. It is certain that his character was very odd and whimsical, as will appear more particularly from the books he wrote ; yet we are told that he was esteemed in his time both as a man of great wit and learning, and an excellent physician. In this latter capacity he is said to have served king Henry VIII. As Winchester was then a royal residence, he perhaps might be his majesty's titular physician for that place. He is also mentioned as a member of the college of physicians. That he was



not, however, of such eminence as to rank with the first of his profession, may be inferred from his becoming a prisoner in the Fleet, where he died in April 1549. Bale, who bore no good will to any person attached to popery, intimates that Borde hastened his death by poison on the discovery of his keeping a brothel for his brother batchelors.

HE was the author of several works, very various in their subjects. One of the most considerable of them is entitled *A Book of the Introduction of Knowledge*, professing to teach all kinds of languages, the customs and fashions of all countries, and the value of every species of coin. It is written partly in verse and partly in prose; and is divided into thirty-nine chapters, before each of which is a wooden cut, representing a man in the habit of some particular country. His well-known satire on the Englishman, who to express the inconstancy and mutability of his fashions, is drawn naked, with a piece of cloth and a pair of sheers in his hand, is borrowed, as I am informed, from the Venetians, who characterized the French in this manner.

To

To the seventh chapter is prefixed the effigies of the author, under a canopy, with a gown, a laurel on his head, and a book before him. The title of the chapter declares that therein is shewn how the author dwelt in Scotland and *other islands*, and went through and round about Christendom. This singular work was printed in London in 1542.

THE first of his medical works is entitled *The Breviarie of Health*. It was published in 1547; and Fuller supposes it the earliest medical piece written in English. It has a *prologue* addressed to physicians, which begins in this curious style. "Egregious doctors and  
 "masters of the eximious and arcane science  
 "of physick, of your urbanity exasperate not  
 "yourselves against me for making this little  
 "volume." The work itself contains a short account in alphabetical order, of all diseases and their remedies, adapted to the use of the vulgar. It is a very trifling and weak performance, extremely coarse in language, and injudicious in matter, though perhaps not more so than some much later works of the same kind. The appellations

of diseases in Arabic, Greek, Latin, and the barbarous medical dialect are professed to be given, but from the ignorance of the author, or blundering of the printer, the words are almost all made barbarous. That a good share of this, however, belongs to the author, appears from many strange mistakes which could only proceed from him, of which one of the most curious is his derivation of the word *Gonorrhœa* from *Gomorrhœa*. He does not confine his attention to diseases of the body, but also treats of those of the mind; as in the following instance, which may serve for a specimen of his manner.

*“ The 174 Chapter doth shewe of an  
“ infirmitie named Hereos.*

“ *HEREOS* is the Greke worde. In Latin  
“ it is named *Amor*. In English it is named  
“ love sicke, and women may have this sicke-  
“ nes as well as men. Yong persons be  
“ much troubled with this impediment.

*“ The cause of this infirmitie.*

“ *THIS* infirmitie doth come of amours,  
“ which is a fervent love for to have carnal  
copu-

“ copulacion with the party that is loved ;  
“ and it cannot be obteyned some be so fool-  
“ ish that they be ravished of theyr wittes.

“ *A remedy.*

“ FIRST I do advertise every person not to  
“ set to the hart that another doth set at the  
“ hele, let no man set his love so far, but  
“ that he may withdraw it betime, and muse  
“ not, but use mirth and mery company, and  
“ be wyse and not folish.”

A MORE effectual remedy is given under the head *Satyriasis*, for which he recommends leaping into a great vessel of cold water, and applying nettles to the offending part.

A SECOND part of this work, containing some articles omitted in the first, is termed *the Extravagants*. They are printed together in quarto, London 1575. At the conclusion of the first part he says, “ here endeth the first  
“ boke, examined in Oxforde in June 1546.” What is meant by this examination I cannot tell.

ANOTHER

ANOTHER medical work of this author's is entitled *Compendyous Regimēte, or Dietary of Health made in Mount Pyllor*. This piece, in the edition I have of it, is printed in January 1562, several years after the author's death. It is very comprehensive in its subject, containing advice concerning the situation and method of building a house, the regulating a family, and the ordering of œconomical matters, as well as directions relative to the non-naturals. There is a good deal of plain sense, but very little new or ingenious in his precepts. The only part in which any thing appears worth quoting is that where he treats on the articles of diet usual in his time.

HIS account of ale, which he calls natural drink for an Englishman, is, that it is made of malt and water, and yest, barme, or gods-good; and they who put any thing more to it, he says, sophisticate it. This should not be drunk under five days old. Beer, he tells us, is made of malt, hops and water; and is natural drink for a Dutchman, and of late is much used in England to the detriment



ment of many Englishmen. Speaking of *wylde beastes' fleshe*, he says; "I have gone  
 "rounde about Chrystendome, and over-  
 "thwarte Chrystendome, and a thousand or  
 "two and more myles oute of Chrystendome,  
 "yet there is not so muche pleasure for Harte  
 "and Hynde, Bucke and Doe, and for  
 "Roobucke and Doe as is in Englande; and  
 "although the fleshe be disprayed in physicke  
 "I praye God to fende me parte of the fleshe  
 "to eat, physicke notwithstandinge." Under  
 the heads of roots, herbs and fruits he men-  
 tions most of those in common use at this  
 day, notwithstanding the prevailing notion  
 of the low state of gardening among us in  
 that period.\* The title of the book, from  
 which it would seem to have been drawn up  
 at Montpellier, renders, indeed, his evidence  
 somewhat doubtful; though it sufficiently

\* SIR THOMAS ELYOT in his *Castle of Health* enu-  
 rates the same. Surely Queen Katharine need not have  
 sent to Flanders for a sallad, when lettuce, endive,  
 succory, beet, forrel and onion grew in England. It  
 is true she came over somewhat earlier than these authors  
 wrote, but these articles are mentioned as quite common  
 and of familiar use.

appears

appears from the contents to have been in general designed for the particular use of his countrymen. As potatoes are not at all mentioned among the articles of vegetable diet, they probably were but just then introduced, and not commonly known.

He is said also to have written a *book of Prognostics*, and another of *Urines*. But what is the most singular for a man of his character is his being the publisher of a famous jest-book called *The Merry Tales of the Mad Men of Gotham*; and likewise of *The History of the Miller of Abingdon and the Cambridge Scholars*, the same with that related by Chaucer in his *Canterbury Tales*. These publications agree better with the bishop's account of his conduct, than with his Carthusian mortifications.

He left behind him in manuscript a kind of *Tour of Europe*, describing the distances from place to place, and the most remarkable objects on the road.

ABOUT

**A**BOUT this time flourished SIR THOMAS ELYOT, Knight, a person eminent in various branches of learning, and a patron and friend of most of the learned men in Henry the eighth's reign. Among other works in different branches of science, he wrote one on phyfic, entituled *The Castell of Health*. This was greatly esteemed, not only by the public in general, but by some of the faculty in his time; and is, indeed, fully as worthy of notice as most of the medical pieces of that age. Some account of it may therefore be expected in this work; though, as the author did not follow the profession of phyfic, he is not included in the biographical part of our plan.

THE *Castell of Health* is said to have been first published in 1541, yet my edition of that year is asserted to be "corrected and in some places augmented by the first author thereof." It was reprinted in 1572, 1580, and 1595. The writer in his *Prokeme* or preface, answering

swering the objection that might be raised against his work from his supposed ignorance of medical science, gives an account of the manner of his acquiring this part of knowledge, which is worth quoting on account of the course of reading mentioned in it. “ Before that I was twenty years old ” he says, “ a worshipful Physician, and one of the most “ renowned at that time in England red unto “ me the works of Galen of temperaments “ and natural faculties, the introduction of “ Johannicius, with some of the Aphorisms “ of Hippocrates. And afterward by mine “ own study I read over in order the more “ part of the works of Hippocrates, Galen, “ Oribasius, Paulus, Celsus, Alexander, “ Trallianus, Plinius the one and the other, “ with Dioscorides. Nor did I omit to read “ the long canons of Avicenna, the commentaries of Averrhoes, the practises of “ Isaac, Haliabbas, Rhazes, Mesue; and also “ of the more part of them which were their “ aggregators and followers. And although “ I have never been at Montpellier, Padua “ nor Salern, yet have I found something “ in physick whereby I have taken no little “ profit

“profit concerning mine own health.” His acquaintance with these antient authors is sufficiently evinced in his work by his frequent references to them, and his adopting all the theory of Galen with its numerous distinctions and divisions. It cannot be expected that much of original matter should be found in a writer so circumstanced. On the whole, his rules for diet and regimen when not drawn from Galenical theory, are founded upon good plain sense; and he uniformly inculcates temperance of every kind. This he carries to a degree, with regard to certain enjoyments, that would, I presume, be generally thought somewhat too rigorous, except by such a bridegroom as the old gentleman in *la Fontaine*, who would be pleased with our knight’s authority to add all the months from April to October to the red-letter days of his kalendar.

Two or three particular observations which appear proper to this author are all I shall further extract from this work. In speaking of different kinds of drinks, he has the following remark concerning cyder-drinkers. “Who that  
“ will diligently mark in the countries where  
“ cider



“cider is used for a common drink, the  
“men and women have the colour of their  
“visage pallid, and the skin of their visage  
“rivelled, although that they be young.”  
The qualities of the cyder of some counties  
have of late been a subject of much disquisition;  
and from this passage it will appear  
that suspicions concerning the unwholesomeness  
of this liquor are of long standing.

FROM another passage we learn that the  
disease now called a cold began to be common  
in England in his time. “At this present  
time,” he says, “in this realm of England  
there is not any one more annoyance  
to the health of man’s body, than distillations  
from the head called rheums.” The  
cause of their being so much more frequent  
then than they used to be forty years before,  
he supposes to be “banquettings after supper,  
“and drinking much, specially wine a little  
“after sleep;” and also covering up the head too  
hot, a practice which prevailed to such a degree,  
that he tells us “now a days if a boy of seven  
“years of age, or a young man of twenty  
“years have not two caps on his head, he and  
“his

“ his friends will think that he may not continue in health ; and yet if the inner cap be not of velvet or fatten a serving man feareth “ to lose his credence” (credit.)

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## THOMAS VICARY.

THE name of this person deserves recording, as the author of the first anatomical work written in the English language. He was a citizen of London, Serjeant Surgeon to the kings Henry VIII. and Edward VI. and the queens Mary and Elizabeth, and chief Surgeon of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The title of his work is *A Treasure for Englishmen, containing the Anatomie of Man's Body*, printed, London, 1548 ; or, as given by Ames, *A profitable Treatise of the Anatomy of Man's Body, compiled by T. Vicary, and published by the Surgeons of St. Bartholomew's Hospital*, London, 1577, 12mo. It was likewise published in 1633, in 4to. together with several  
F other

other little medical and chirurgical treatises. It is a short piece, designed for the use of his more unlearned brethren, and taken almost entirely from Galen and the Arabians. A rude cut of a skeleton is prefixed to the latter edition.

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## EDWARD WOTTON

WAS born at Oxford in the year 1492, and educated at the school near Magdalen College, of which college he became *Demy*, and took his batchelor's degree in 1513. Being patronized by bishop Fox, founder of Corpus Christi College, and appointed *Socius Compar* and Greek lecturer of that new foundation, he continued there till 1520, when he obtained leave to travel into Italy for three years. In that country he studied phyfic, and had a doctor's degree conferred on him at Padua. On his return he resumed his lectureship, and was incorporated doctor of phyfic in the latter  
end

end of 1525. He became very eminent in his profession, first about Oxford, and then in London; and was made a member of the college of physicians in London, and physician to king Henry VIII. He died in the sixty-third year of his age, October 5th. 1555, and was buried in St. Alban's church, London. He had a son (Henry) who afterwards became an eminent physician.

DR. WOTTON appears to have been the first of our English physicians who particularly applied to a branch of study in which several have since excelled, that of Natural History. He rendered himself famous by a book on this subject, entitled *De Differentiis Animalium*, lib. X. printed, Paris 1552. Of this work the following opinion is given by the learned Gesner, in the preface to his *Historia Avium*.

“ Edoardus Wotton, Anglus, nuper de animalium differentiis libros decem edidit;  
 “ in quibus, etiamsi suarum observationum  
 “ quod ad historiam nihil adferat, neque novi  
 “ aliquid doceat, laude tamen & lectione  
 “ dignus est, quod pleraque veterum de animalibus scripta ita digesserit, ac inter se

“conciliarit, ut ab uno fere authore profecta  
 “videantur omnia; stylo fatis æquabili &  
 “puro, scholiis etiam ac emendationibus uti-  
 “lissimis adjectis, & quod priusquam ad ex-  
 “plicandas singulorum naturas accederet,  
 “quæ communia & in genere dici poterant,  
 “doctissime exposuerit.” This account,  
 though drawn by a friendly hand, is not es-  
 sentially different from the less favourable  
 sentence of Haller, who says of the work,  
 “Ab eruditione magis, quam ab ipsarum re-  
 “rum cognitione commendatur.” *Boerb.  
 Meth. Stud. Med.*—and, “Sine ordine omnia,  
 “fere collectitia ex veteribus, & etiam potif-  
 “simum ex Aristotele.” *Biblioth. Med.*

WOTTON also began a History of Insects,  
 but left the finishing of it to Mouffet.

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## GEORGE OWEN

WAS born in the diocese of Worcester,  
 and educated at Oxford. He became proba-  
 tioner fellow of Merton College in 1519, and  
 took



took the several degrees in physick, that of Doctor being conferred upon him in 1527. Soon after his graduation he was made physician to king Henry VIII; in which office he also served his successors king Edward VI and queen Mary. In 1544 he was constituted a fellow of the College of physicians. His station at court, and the testimonies of respectable cotemporaries, sufficiently assure us of his high character in his profession; but few particulars of his life important enough to be related are recorded. He was a witness to the will of king Henry VIII. who left him a legacy of a hundred pounds. It is reported that the succeeding prince, Edward VI. was brought into the world by Dr Owen's means, who performed the Cæsarian operation on his mother. From this circumstance, whether truly or falsely related, we may conclude him to have been a practitioner in midwifery, as well as in physick. In the first year of queen Mary he was very instrumental in obtaining an act for the confirmation and enlargement of the powers granted to the College of Physicians. Some time after, in the same reign, upon occasion of a difference between the College of Physicians and the University of Oxford, concern-

ing the admission of an illiterate person to a degree, who was rejected by the College upon their examination, Cardinal Pole, then Chancellor of the University, was appealed to, and obliged the University to consult our Dr. Owen, together with Dr. Thomas Huys, the queen's physician, *de instituendis rationibus quibus Oxoniensis Academia in admittendis Medicis uteretur.* An agreement was in consequence made, which the Chancellor approved and ratified by his authority. We learn little farther concerning this eminent physician, except that he enjoyed for several years before his death divers lands and tenements near Oxford, which had belonged to religious houses, and were conferred upon him by the favour of Henry and Edward. It may from hence appear somewhat extraordinary, that one of his descendents should be condemned to death in the year 1615 for maintaining the legality of killing a prince excommunicated by the Pope. Dr. Owen died October 10, 1558, of an epidemic intermittent,\* and was buried in St. Stephen's, Walbrook.

LELAND

\* THE account of this epidemic, as given by Dr. Caius

LELAND intimates that he had written several pieces on medical subjects, but none of them preserved. Tanner mentions the following work of his writing. *A Meet Diet for*

Caius in his annals of the College of physicians, is worth inserting.

“ TERTIO die Octobris, A. D. 1558, electoi præsidis erat, quod postridie divi Michaelis ex statuto esse nequibat; distractis hinc inde omnibus collegis in populi subsidium; Qui febribus tertianis, duplicibus tertianis, & tertianis continuis ita vexabatur populariter per omnem mensem Augusti & Septembris, per que universam insulam Britanniam, perinde ac peste aliqua, ut nullus locus quieti aut privatis negotiis esse potuit. Ex hoc morbo periere multi, non in urbe solum, sed ruri etiam; inter quos Urbanus Huys erat, quod dolens refero, ex immodica fatigatione per æstus graviores, dum aulicos curaret, morbo correptus.

“ PER eos menses vix erant sani, qui ægris ministrarent; vix messores qui messem meterent, aut in horreum recolligerent. Hos morbos exceperunt quartanæ populariter, ut non alias æque per hominum memoriam; & aliquot quintanæ & octonæ etiam, sed hæc breves & sine periculo: Illæ plurimos de vita sustulerunt, flores videlicet gravitatis, consilii & ætatis maturæ. Ex his Georgius Owenus erat, regius medicus & Doctor Oxoniens. qui obiit” &c.

*the new Ague set forth by Mr. Dr. Owen.*  
London 1558, fol.

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## ROBERT RECORDE

WAS born in Wales, and went to Oxford for his education about the year 1525. In 1531, he was elected fellow of All Soul's College. Turning his studies to physick, but where, or under what masters, we are not told, he was created doctor in that faculty at Cambridge in 1545. Both before and after this period he is said to have taught Arithmetic at Oxford, and to have excelled all his predecessors in rendering this branch of knowledge clear and familiar. He is likewise mentioned as remarkably skilled in Rhetoric, Astronomy, Geometry, Music, Mineralogy, and every part of Natural History. He was well acquainted with the Saxon language; and made large collections of historical and  
other

other antient manuscripts.\* To these various studies he joined that of divinity, and was attached to the principles of the reformers. But notwithstanding he was justly regarded as a prodigy of learning and parts, it does not appear that he met with encouragement at all adequate to his merits; since all that we know further of him is, that he died in the King's-bench prison, where he was confined for debt, in the year 1558.

THE principal of his works are the following.

*The Ground of Arts, teaching the work and practise of Arithmetick, both in whole numbers and Fractions.* 1540. I have a republication of this in 1570, *London*, 12mo. It is dedicated to king Edward VI. In the epistle dedicatory, he says, he has omitted some things which were not to be published without his highness's approbation, "namely,

\* BALE, speaking of *William Batecumbe*, says, "In musæo doctoris Roberti Recorde, medici peritissimi, ejus librum de spheræ concavæ fabrica & usu vidi." He also refers to the same collection on other occasions.

"because



“ because in them is declared all the rates  
 “ of alloyes for all standards from one ounce  
 “ upward, with other mysteries of mynte  
 “ matters, and also moſte parte of the varie-  
 “ ties of coynes that have bin currant in this  
 “ your Maieſtie’s realm by the ſpace almoſt  
 “ of fix hundred yeares laſte paſt, and many  
 “ of them that were currant in the tyme that  
 “ the Romans ruled heere. All which, with  
 “ the aunciente deſcription of Englande and  
 “ Ireland, and my ſimple cenſure of the  
 “ ſame, I have almoſt completed to be exhi-  
 “ bited to your highneſſe.” As the coin was  
 moſt notoriously adulterated by the mini-  
 ſtry of Edward, it is probable that this pro-  
 poſed publication was not encouraged.

*The Whetſtone of Wit*; a ſecond part to the former.

*The Path-way to Knowledge, containing the  
 firſt principles of Geometry.*

*The Caſtle of Knowledge, containing the ex-  
 planation of the Sphere.*

*The*

*The Urinal of Physick.* This is dedicated in 1547, and was reprinted in London in 1582, 1599, and 1665. Haller, in his *Biblioth. Anat.* mentions it as containing a description of the urinary vessels with figures.

*The Judicial of Urines.* This I imagine to be the same with the former, only with a different title; since my edition of 1665 contains the figures and description that are referred to by Haller. It is a short, but very methodical treatise, full of divisions and subdivisions relative to the different kinds of urines, and the prognostics to be deduced from them. He candidly acknowledges at the beginning, that the judgment to be formed in diseases from the urine is not so certain as some have represented; and indeed the perplexity and variety of opinions concerning this subject are sufficiently apparent from his treatise.

*Of Anatomy.*

*Of Auricular Confession.*

*Of the Eucharist.*

*The Image of a True Commonwealth.*

ALBAYN

## A L B A Y N H Y L L

WAS born in Wales, or, according to Dempster, in Scotland, and educated partly at Oxford, and partly in a foreign university, where he applied to the study of physic, and took a Doctor's degree. He was famous for his practice in London, and was much admired by his learned cotemporaries both in England and abroad. He had a particular intimacy with the learned Dr. Caius and Dr. Fryer of Cambridge. It is probable he lived a good deal in foreign countries, since the chief accounts we have of him come from foreigners. Josias Simler of Zurick, and Baffianus Landus of Placentia mention him with honour: the latter styles him "medicus nobilissimus atque optimus, & in omni literarum genere maxime versatus;" and tells us that he wrote several pieces upon Galen, particularly the anatomical part of his works.

He

He died December 26, 1559, and was buried in St. Alban's church, London.

FULLER mentions it as somewhat remarkable, that Wales had three eminent physicians and writers who were cotemporaries; viz. Recorde, Phayer, and Hyll.

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### THOMAS PHAYER OR PHAIRE

WAS born in Pembroke-shire, and educated at Oxford, from whence he removed to Lincoln's Inn for the study of the law. This he pursued to such length as to become an author in it, writing a treatise on the nature of Writs, and another of the same kind with that now called a book of Precedents. For some reason, however, with which we are not acquainted, he quitted the law, and with equal ardour pursued the study of physic. He took his degree of Doctor in this faculty at Oxford in 1559; but so long before as the  
year

year 1544 we find him publishing a translation of a French treatise concerning *the Pestilence*, together with a *Description of the Veins in the Human Body*, and the purposes answered by opening each of them. From the same language he also translated a book on *the Diseases of Children*, one of *Regimen*, and one of *Remedies, or Medical Prescriptions*. This is the account given of his medical works; but in the preface to a collection of them in my possession, printed, London 1560, he only acknowledges the *Regiment of Life* to be a translation from the French, but it is said of the *Treatise on the Pestilence*, and the *Booke of Children* that they are “composed by Thomas “Phayer, studious in philosophie and “phisycke.” They are however mere compilations, with little or nothing of his own. He seems to have been in considerable reputation for his medical practice, but where he exercised it is not so clear. Bale says he flourished at London in 1550; Pits, that he died there in that year; but Wood, who appears to be better informed, traces his residence in South Wales from the year 1555 to 1560, when he died at Kilgarran in Pembrokeshire;



brokeshire ; in which place he was also buried.

AMONG his various attainments, his poetical abilities were not the least famous in his time. He wrote in verse *An account of Owen Glendour, who deceived by false prophecies assumed the title of Prince of Wales* ; and likewise undertook a *Translation of the Æneid*, which seems to have been the great employment of the latter part of his life, but of which he only finished nine books. Pits characterizes this performance as being done “ magna gravitate, pari elegantia :” but Fuller says, the wits of his time would render this *gravitas* “ dullness ;” and describes the versification as extremely rude and inharmonious.

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## WILLIAM TURNER.

WE have already seen that some of the physicians of this period paid a particular

cular attention to the study of natural history. The circumstances of the times, in which the principles of reformation in religion were every where struggling against an antient and powerful establishment, gave also a turn towards theological enquiries to almost all who were habituated to study and speculation; among whom those of the medical profession were always conspicuous. A threefold union of the several characters of physician, naturalist, and divine was therefore not unfrequent at this æra; and there were few in whom it existed more eminently than in the subject of the following memoirs.

WILLIAM TURNER was born at Morpeth in Northumberland. He was educated at Cambridge, where, as we find from a dedicatory epistle of his to Lord Wentworth, he was assisted by a yearly exhibition from that nobleman's father. In this university he pursued the studies of philosophy and physic; and also acquired a great reputation for proficiency in the learned languages, oratory and poetry. He was a fellow-collegian and friend of the celebrated bishop Ridley, and imbibed,  
together

together with him, the religious principles of the reformers, which then began to be received in England. In his zeal for the propagation of these opinions, he for some time quitted his medical pursuits, and travelled through the greatest part of the kingdom as an itinerant and unlicensed preacher.\* For this, at the instigation of bishop Gardiner and others, he was imprisoned; and on his escape, or, as Wood represents it, his release, he banished himself to foreign

\* As a specimen of the style of the Oxford antiquary, Anthony Wood, and his manner of treating an *innovator* and opposer of an *establishment*, though that establishment was popery, I shall quote his representation of this matter. "This person, (Turner) who was very conceited  
 " of his own worth, hot headed, a busy body, and  
 " much addicted to the opinions of Luther, would needs  
 " in the height of his study of physic turn Theologist,  
 " but always refused the usual ceremonies to be observed  
 " in order to his being made Priest: and whether he had  
 " orders conferred upon him according to the R. Cath.  
 " manner, appears not. Sure it is, that while he was a  
 " young man, he went unsent for, through many parts  
 " of the nation, and preached the word of God, not  
 " only in towns and villages, but also in cities."  
*Athen. Oxon*, II. 154.

G countries.

countries. He took the degree of doctor of physick at Ferrara; and during the remainder of Henry the eighth's reign he resided chiefly at Cologne and other places in Germany, where he published some of his works. In the next reign, which was more agreeable to his religious opinions, he returned to England, and was very favourably received by the young king, who presented him with a prebend of York, a canonry of Windsor, and the deanery of Wells. He likewise obtained a license to read and preach, as many other learned laymen did at that time; and was incorporated doctor of physick at Oxford. The protector, Edward, duke of Somerset, made him his physician; which brought him into considerable practice among people of rank. On the accession of queen Mary he was again obliged to quit his country, and went into Germany with several other English divines; from thence to Rome, and afterwards for a time settled in Basil. At her death he returned, and was restored to his preferments. He died July 7th. 1568, and was buried in St. Olave's church yard, London.

HE left a widow, who afterwards married Dr. Richard Cox, bishop of Ely; and several children, one of whom was a doctor of physic, whose son was Geometry professor in Gresham College.

DR. TURNER was a writer in all the three branches of knowledge for which he was eminent. His medical works are

*A book of the nature and properties of Bathes in England, as of other Bathes in Germany and Italy.* Colen, 1562. fol. A preface to this, addrested "to his well beloved neighbours in Bath, Bristol, Wells, Wynsam, and Charde" is dated from Basil, March 10. 1557. In it he says, that as far as he can learn, he is the first writer on the waters of Bath. A dedication of the work to the earl of Hertford is dated, London, Feb. 15, 1560. His account of foreign baths is short and chiefly taken from other authors. That of the English is confined to those of Bath. These he supposes to be impregnated with no other mineral than sulphur. He complains much of the little care



taken of them, and the want of conveniences to render them proper for the sick. He proposes some alterations, and recommends the refuse water to be collected for the purpose of bathing diseased horses. He mentions nothing of their internal use.

*The nature of Wines commonly used in England, with a confutation of them that hold that Rhenish and other small wines ought not to be drunken, either of them that have the stone, the rheum, or other diseases.* London 1568, 8vo. With this was printed a *Treatise on the nature and vertue of Triacle.*

*The rare treasure of English Bathes.* London, 1587, 4to. I have a piece with this title and author's name, printed with some other old medical tracts, which is said to be "gathered and set forth for the benefit of the poorer sort of people by William Bremer practitioner in phyfic and chirurgerie." It relates only to the bath of Bath, and chiefly consists of directions for its use.

DR. TURNER was author of the first *Herbal*  
written

written in the English language. The first part of this Herbal was printed in London in 1551; A second part, addressed to lord Wentworth, at Colen, 1562. They are both in folio; and wooden cuts, many of them not inelegant, are prefixed to the account of each plant. The author mentions that botanical studies were so much neglected in England, that, about the middle of Henry the eighth's reign, he found not a single physician at Cambridge who could inform him of the Greek, Latin, or English name of any plant he produced.

IN Natural History he likewise published a small treatise on birds, entitled

*Avium præcipuarum, quarum apud Plinium & Aristotelem mentio est, brevis & succineta historia.* Colon. 1554, 12mo. It is written in elegant Latin, and is a book, as Dr. Merret observes, "mole parvum, judicio majorem." He was cotemporary with Gesner, and a correspondent in high esteem with that illustrious naturalist. In the Frankfort edition of Gesner's *Historia Piscium* is a letter of our coun-

tryman's to him, giving a short account of the British fish, also their English names. This letter is dated at Weissenberg, November 1557, where Turner practised physic; Gefner calling him "Medicus Weissenburgi eximius." He again, in the preface to his ornithology, speaks very respectfully of our countryman's knowledge of that subject, and seldom omits quoting him whenever he has opportunity.\*

THE religious writings of our author were numerous, and many of them had the quaint and affected titles usual in those days. Strype, in his *Life of Cranmer*, p. 357 gives the following account of one of them, which I shall quote as a specimen of his manner. It is entitled, *A New Book of Spiritual Physick for divers diseases of the Nobility and Gentlemen of England*; printed 1555, and dedicated to several of the principal nobility. "It consisted of three parts. In the first he shewed who were noble and gentlemen, and how many works and properties belong unto

\* For the above paragraph I am indebted to Mr. Pennant,

"such,

“such, and wherein their office chiefly stand-  
“eth. In the second part he shewed great  
“diseases were in the Nobility and Gentry,  
“which letted them from doing their office,  
“In the third part he specified what the dis-  
“eases were: as namely, the whole palsy, the  
“dropsy, the Romish pox, and the leprosy;  
“shewing afterwards the remedies against  
“these diseases. For being a very facetious  
“man, he delivered his reproofs and counsels  
“under witty and pleasant discourse.”

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## T H O M A S G I B S O N

WAS a townsman and a cotemporary of Turner, and like him united divinity and natural history with medicine. He was also eminent for historical knowledge. He probably studied at Oxford, but at what precise time we are not acquainted. To his character as a physician Bale bears witness, by saying that he performed most incredible cures. He

was a friend to the reformation, and wrote several pieces for the service of that cause. In the reign of queen Mary he was a fugitive for his religion, but on the accession of Elizabeth returned, and died at London in 1562. Tanner gives the following list of his writings.

*A Breve Chronicle of the bishops of Rome's blessinge, and of his prelates beneficial and charitable rewards, from the tyme of king Heralde to this daye (in English rhyme) London 12mo.* This, I suppose, is the work called by others *The treasons of the prelates.*

*The Sum of the Acts and Decrees made by divers bishops of Rome. Translated from the Latin. 12mo.*

*Of the Ceremonies used by Popes.*

*A Treatise behooveful as well to preserve the people from Pestilence, as to help and recover them that be infected with the same, made by a Bishop and Dr. of Physic in Denmark, which*  
*Medicines*



*Medicines have been proved in many places in London. 1536, 4to.*

*An Herbal.*

*Treatise against unskilful Alchemists.*

*Treatise of curing common Diseases.*

*De utroque homine, lib. I.*

*The various States that Britany hath been in (supposed to be left imperfect.)*

ONE of his name, supposed by Wood to be himself, made application of some passages in the prophetic writings to the circumstances of his own time, in favour of king Henry VIII. — a delusion too common among the protestants of that age.

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## J O H N C L E M E N T.

AT what precise time, or in what part of England this learned physician was born, we are not informed. He was educated at Oxford, and was honoured with a very  
early

early acquaintance with Sir Thomas More, who took him into his family, made him tutor to his children, and seems to have regarded him with paternal kindness. The following passage in a letter from that illustrious person to Petrus Ægidius\*, is a pleasing declaration of his sentiments concerning Clement, and his treatment of him. He is speaking of a literary difficulty started by his young friend. “*Nam et Joannes Clemens* “*puer meus, qui adfuit, ut scis, una, ut* “*quem a nullo patior sermone abesse, in quo* “*aliquid esse fructus potest, quoniam ab hac* “*herba, quæ et Latinis literis & Græcis cæ-* “*pit evirescere, egregiam aliquando frugem* “*spero, in magnam me conjecit dubitatio-* “*nem.*” In another letter he mentions him as teaching Greek to Colet, afterwards Dean of St. Paul’s, and founder of Paul’s school.

THE friendship of Sir Thomas More was not of such an interested nature, as to be a restraint upon the advancement of Clement. On the contrary, we find him, about the year

\* Jortin’s Erasmus, Vol. II. p. 625.

1519, settled at Corpus Christi College in Oxford, as professor of rhetoric, and afterwards of Greek, in that University, in consequence of his patron's recommendation to Cardinal Wolsey. These employments he filled with great reputation; and it is remarked, to the honour of the medical faculty, that as Linacre was the first who taught Greek at Oxford, so Clement was the second teacher there of any note in that language. Till this period it does not appear that his studies had been directed to any particular profession; but he now gave himself up entirely to the pursuit of medical knowledge. Thus More, in one of his epistles, mentioning Lupset as professor of the languages at Oxford, says, "Successit enim Joanni Clementi meo; nam is se totum addixit rei Medicæ, nemini aliquando cessurus, nisi hominem (quod abominor) hominibus in-  
"inviderint Parcæ."\* This was in the year 1520 or 1521. His success in medical studies appears to have been such as might have been expected from his learning and abilities.

He was made a Fellow of the College of Physicians in London; and was one of the physicians sent by Henry VIII. to Wolsey, when he lay languishing at Esher in 1529. In the reign of Edward VI. he left his country for the sake of the Roman Catholic religion, a strong attachment to which he had probably imbibed in the family of his patron Sir Thomas More. Some circumstances must have rendered him peculiarly obnoxious to the court, since we find him, with some other papists, excepted from a general pardon granted by Edward in the year 1552. It was during his continuance abroad on this occasion, that, as Wood thinks, he took the degree of doctor of physic. On the accession of Queen Mary he returned, and practised in his profession in a part of Essex, near London. At her death he went abroad a second time, and there spent the remainder of his days. He died at Mechlin, where he had resided and practised several years, on July 1st. 1572.

He married, about the year 1526, a lady named Margaret, who was in the family of  
Sir

Sir Thomas More at the same time with himself. Pits calls her "*Margaritam illam, quam inter filias suas, tanquam filiam, educari fecerat Morus.*" She was little inferior to her husband in knowledge of the learned languages, and gave him considerable assistance in his translations from the Greek. She lived with him above forty-four years, dying in 1570; and in an epitaph which he wrote for her monument, among other subjects of praise, he relates her teaching her sons and daughters Greek and Latin.

THE only works which Clement published were some translations of pieces in divinity from the Greek, and a book of Latin epigrams and other verses.

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## THOMAS GALE.

FROM the writings of this author the following circumstances of his life are collected.

HE



HE was born in 1507; and educated under Richard Ferris, afterwards Serjeant Surgeon to queen Elizabeth. He was a surgeon in the army of king Henry VIII. at Montruil, in 1544; and also in that of king Philip at St. Quintin, in 1557. He afterwards settled in London, and became very eminent in the practice of surgery. He was living in 1586. Bishop Tanner gives the following list of his writings.

*The Institution of a Chirurgeon. An Enchiridion of Surgery*, in four books. *On Gunshot Wounds. Antidotary*, two books. All these were printed together, London, 1563, 8vo.

*A Compendious Method of curing Præternatural Tumours. On the several kinds of Ulcers and their cure. A Commentary on Guido de Cauliaco.* These are mentioned by W. Cunningham in his prefatory epistle to the *Institution of a Chirurgeon*.

*An Herbal for the use of Surgeons.* This he promises towards the end of his *Enchiridion*.

*A Brief*

*A Brief Declaration of the Art of Medicine, and the Office of a Chirurgeon. An Epitome of Galen de natural. facultat.* These two are printed with a translation of *Galen de Methodo Medendi.*

THE *Institution of a Chirurgeon*, and the other works printed with it, are dedicated to Lord Robert Dudley, Master of the Horse to the queen (Elizabeth). The date is July 16, 1563.

THE *Institution* is a dialogue in which Gale, and John Field, another surgeon who was educated with him under Ferris, are represented as answering the questions of a student, John Yates. It is a general Introduction to Surgery, containing a definition of the art, with its several branches; a brief account of the instruments and apparatus used in it; definitions of all the diseases in which it is conversant; tables of the different kinds of wounds, ulcers, fractures, dislocations, &c.; and a description of ligatures, futures, tents and dressings.

THE

THE *Enchiridion* is a plain and concise account of the method of practice in curing wounds, fractures, and dislocations. It is extracted from former writers in surgery, and contains nothing of his own except a powder for stopping the hæmorrhage after amputation, without the cautery. This, he says, “was  
 “invented by himself and one master Pier-  
 “ponte, and first put in use and practice by  
 “the surgeons in St. Thomas’s hospital in  
 “Southwarke. And since that time put in  
 “use of many more, both young and old,  
 “not onely in taking off members, but re-  
 “straining of blood both in veins and arteries,  
 “which could not be done with hot irons.”  
 He further declares that he has not known two die on whom this powder was used after amputating the leg or arm. The recipe is as follows. R. *Aluminis succarini*, *Tburis*, *Arsenici*  
*aa* ʒij *Calcis vivi* ʒvi. Powder them together, and boil them in a pint of strong vinegar to the consumption of the liquor. Take of the dry residuum three ounces, *Bole Armoniack* half an ounce, *Pulvis Alcamisticus* one ounce. Reduce them to a very fine powder, and you have the medicine required. The method of  
 using

using it is to mix it with white of egg, and spread it upon tow, sprinkling upon it some of the dry powder; and apply over the end of the stump.

HIS *Treatise on Gun-shot Wounds*, is chiefly designed to confute the error of Jerome of Brunswick, John de Vigo, Alphonfus Ferrius and others, in supposing these wounds to be of a venomous nature; an error of bad consequence in practice. Our author quotes the opinions of Galen and Dioscorides concerning the ingredients of which gun-powder is made, shewing from thence that they were used as medicines instead of being considered as poisonous. It is, however, to be observed, that he mistakes the nitre of the antients for salt-petre. He also proves that the bullet does not acquire such a heat in its motion as to render its wound similar to a cautery, which was the common opinion. From hence he adopts a milder method of treating these wounds, directing his endeavours to the procuring a laudable digestion, and in all respects considering them as common contusions. Some of his remedies, however, are sharper than

H

modern

modern practice allows in these cases; such as ointments with *precipitate* and *ægyptiacum*. In our account of William Clowes, a nearer approach to the best modern practice, introduced by that surgeon, will be remarked. Some short chapters, in which the variations of treatment in gun-shot wounds, according to the different parts they occupy, are mentioned, compose the rest of this treatise.

THE *Antidotarie* is a collection of surgical receipts, mostly extracted from other authors, but some of his own invention. Among the rest, are a few of Sir William Butts's, particularly two of plasters directed by that physician for king Henry VIII. when troubled with swelled legs. None of these *formule*, however, deserve attention at present.

ANOTHER volume of this surgeon's works is dated in 1566, and dedicated to Sir Henry Neville. The two first pieces contained in it are entitled *A brief Declaration of the worthy Art of Medicine*, and the *Office of a Chirurgion*. The chief purport of these tracts is to give a general history of the healing art, and to inculcate



culcate a proper idea of the necessity of a scientific method of study in attaining it, and of the connexion between its several branches. Numerous complaints of the intrusion of illiterate pretenders and empiricks into the practice of medicine and surgery are interspersed through these pieces; some of which are worth notice, as containing curious information of the state of the profession at that time. The deplorable condition of military practice may be judged from the following relation. "I remember," says he, "when I  
" was in the wars, at Muttrel, in the time of  
" that most famous prince king Henry VIII.  
" there was a great rabblement there, that  
" took upon them to be surgeons. Some  
" were sow-gelders, and some horse-gelders,  
" with tinkers and cobblers. This noble sect  
" did such great cures, that they got them-  
" selves a perpetual name; for like as Thef-  
" salus' sect were called Theffalions, so was  
" this noble rabblement, for their notorious  
" cures, called dog-leaches; for in two dres-  
" sings they did commonly make their cures  
" whole and sound for ever, so that they nei-  
" ther felt heat nor cold, nor no manner of  
H 2 " pain

“ pain after. But when the duke of Norfolk,  
“ who was then general, understood how the  
“ people did die, and that of small wounds,  
“ he sent for me, and certain other surgeons,  
“ commanding us to make search how these  
“ men came to their death, whether it were  
“ by the grievousness of their wounds, or by  
“ the lack of knowledge of the surgeons; and  
“ we according to our commandment made  
“ search through all the camp, and found ma-  
“ ny of the same good fellows, which took  
“ upon them the names of surgeons, not only  
“ the names, but the wages also. We asking  
“ of them whether they were surgeons, or no,  
“ they said they were; we demanded with  
“ whom they were brought up, and they, with  
“ shameless faces, would answer, either with  
“ one cunning man, or another, which was  
“ dead. Then we demanded of them what  
“ chirurgery stuff they had to cure men with-  
“ all; and they would shew us a pot, or a  
“ box, which they had in a budget, wherein  
“ was such trumpery as they did use to grease  
“ horses heels withall, and laid upon scabbed  
“ horses backs, with nerval, and such like.  
“ And other, that were coblers and tinkers,  
“ they

“ they used shoe-maker’s wax, with the rust  
 “ of old pans, and made therewithall a noble  
 “ salve, as they did term it. But in the end,  
 “ this worthy rabblement was committed to  
 “ the Marshalsea, and threatened by the duke’s  
 “ grace to be hanged for their worthy deeds,  
 “ except they would declare the truth what  
 “ they were, and of what occupations, and in  
 “ the end they did confess, as I have declared  
 “ to you before.”

AT this period, however, as we are informed in a subsequent paragraph, the number of regular bred surgeons to supply the public service was much greater than afterwards. For when he is lamenting the wretched state of the profession, he says, “ I have, myself,  
 “ in the time of king Henry VIII. holpe to  
 “ furnish out of London in one year which  
 “ served by sea and land, threescore and  
 “ twelve surgeons, which were good work-  
 “ men, and well able to serve, and all Englishmen. At this present day there are  
 “ not thirty-four of all the whole company of  
 “ Englishmen, and yet the most part of them  
 “ be in noblemen’s service, so that, if we

H 3 “ should

“ should have need, I do not know where to  
 “ find twelve sufficient men. What do I say?  
 “ sufficient men : nay I would there were ten  
 “ amongst all the company, worthy to be  
 “ called surgeons.”

OUR author, in his *Office of a Chirurgeon*, takes notice of a report raised in order to injure him, that Dr. Cuningham, and not himself, was the writer of the works formerly published by him. He acknowledges that “ not having perfect understanding of the “ tongues, he required him, for the more “ perfection thereof, to put in the Greek and “ Latin words, in such fort as he thought “ good ;” but contends that the matter was his own, and the cases related derived from his own practice.\*

THE rest of this volume consists of translations, of the 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th books of Galen’s *Therapeuticon* ; of his book *on præter-*

\* IN the preface to the former volume, he mentions that Dr. Cuningham “ was no small help to him in “ devising the arguments, and perusing the copies “ written.”

*natural tumours*, and an epitome of his three books *of natural faculties*. How far his friend Cuningham was assisting in these, we are not told; but from the confession above-mentioned it is reasonable to suppose that he would be applied to on the occasion.

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## JOHN KAYE OR KEY,

MORE generally known by the name of CAIUS, may be regarded as the successor of Linacre in uniting the first honours of literature with those of medicine.

HE was born at Norwich, October 6, 1510; and after receiving the first rudiments of learning in that city, he was sent very young to Cambridge, and admitted in Goneville Hall, of which he became fellow. His great attachment to his studies was manifested by some very early productions; for, at the age of twenty-one, in order to gratify some of his friends, and put his abilities to the proof, he



translated a treatise of Nicephorus Callistus, and another of Chrysostom, out of Greek into Latin; and epitomized Erasmus's book *De Vera Theologia*; and likewise translated from Latin into English that author's paraphrase on Jude. About six years after this, he lost his intimate friend and townsman William Frammingham, of whom he gives a most extraordinary character for abilities and learning. This person left behind him eight treatises on various subjects, which he committed to the care of our young student, who spent much pains in writing notes and commentaries upon them.

It was probably soon after this that, according to the custom of the times, he travelled into Italy for further improvement in those branches of science which he designed more particularly to pursue. He studied physic at Padua under Joh. Baptista Montanus, the most eminent medical professor of his time. In this city he lodged in the same house with the celebrated anatomist Andreas Vesalius; and seems to have followed anatomical studies with an ardour equal to that of  
his

his companion. He took the degree of doctor first at Bologna. In 1542, in conjunction with Realdus Columbus, he gave public lectures on the Greek text of Aristotle, at Padua, a salary for which purpose was paid by some noble Venetians — an illustrious proof of his high character in the very seat of learning. In 1543 he made the tour of the greatest part of Italy, visiting all the most celebrated libraries, and collating manuscripts, principally with a view to the giving correct editions of the works of Galen and Celsus. At Pisa he heard the medical lectures of Mattheus Curtius; and he finished his travels with France and Germany.

ON his return to his own country, he was incorporated doctor of physic at Cambridge, and practised in his profession at Shrewsbury and Norwich, with a success so favourable to his reputation, that he was called to court, and appointed physician to king Edward VI; in which capacity he afterwards served the queens Mary and Elizabeth. The precise year in which he came to the metropolis is not ascertained; but he mentions certain anatomical

tomical demonstrations which he annually exhibited before the corporation of surgeons, at the request of king Henry VIII; whence it would appear that he was settled in London during the reign of that prince.

IN 1547 he was constituted a fellow of the College of Physicians; and ever after was the great ornament and support of that body, passing through all its honours, and for seven years presiding at its head. His zealous attachment to the dignity and interests of this society was manifested on various occasions. He invented those honorary *insignia* by which the president has ever since been distinguished. He was a strenuous assertor of the rights and privileges of the College, which he defended publicly, with success, in the reign of Elizabeth, against the surgeons, who claimed a right of prescribing internal medicines in certain cases where their manual assistance was requisite. His zeal was exerted, perhaps more beneficially for the public, in erecting a monument to the memory of his great predecessor, Linacre; in obtaining a grant for the College to take annually the bodies of two  
condemned

condemned malefactors for dissection, the expence attending which he left a fund to defray; and in compiling the annals of that learned society, from its institution to the concluding year of his presidency. He was so religious an observer of the College statutes, that, even in his old age, he would not assume the liberty of absenting himself from its assemblies without a particular dispensation.

HIS munificent patronage of learning in general, and grateful return to the society from which he had received his education, were exemplified in a manner that does him peculiar honour. In the reign of queen Mary, with whom he was much in favour, he obtained licence to advance Goneville Hall into a College; which permission he suitably seconded by endowing it with several estates for the maintenance of three fellows and twenty scholars, and by various other acts of bounty. This was effected in the course of the years 1557 and 1558; and his name, together with that of the co-founder, Goneville, still gives title to the college. He framed a new body of laws for this society,

ty, and in 1559 accepted the mastership of it, which he retained as long as he lived. In 1565 he began to enlarge his College by the erection of a new square; and resigned his post as president of the College of Physicians, that he might the more assiduously superintend this work: which was finished in 1570, at the expence of one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four pounds,—a very considerable sum at that time. This capital benefaction, conferred *during his life*, and at a period of it when the passion for accumulating wealth is usually strongest, must be admitted as an undeniable proof both of his warm attachment to the interests of literature, and of his liberal and philosophical disposition.

THE moralizing turn of the man, or of the age, was shewn by the inscriptions he caused to be put over the gates of his new square. One, being low and little, was inscribed *Humilitatis*; the next, which was a portico of handsome architecture, was inscribed *Virtutis*, and on the opposite side was written *Jo. Caius posuit Sapientiæ*. That leading to the public schools, through which all passed for their degrees



degrees, was inscribed *Honoris*. The good man seems to have derived great satisfaction from this disposition of his bounty; for he made this mansion of learning the retreat of his old age; and after resigning the mastership, he resided as a fellow-commoner, assisting at daily prayers in the chapel, in a private seat built for his own use.

RELIGIOUS disputes ran so high at this period, that it was not likely, with all his generosity and beneficence, he should escape the effects of party rancour. In 1565 three fellows of his college whom he had expelled preferred articles against him, charging him not only with "shew of a perverse stomach" to the professors of the gospel, but atheism." Strype observes upon this, that he might possibly affect an indifference for all religion, in order to cover his secret attachment to popery; the reality of which he infers from a quantity of vestments, and other implements of public worship after the popish ceremonial, being found in his lodgings upon a search, which were without mercy committed to the flames. Pits, on the other hand, a bigotted Roman

Roman Catholic writer, accuses him of great unsteadiness and mutability in his religious principles. That he was of a compliant disposition in these matters, is evident, from his maintaining the post he occupied at court under princes of such opposite sentiments; yet it is not improbable that he had a predilection for the antient establishment. Fuller apologizes for him in a very pleasing strain of candour. His being a reputed papist, he says, "was no great crime to such who consider  
 "the time when he was born, and foreign  
 "places wherein he was bred. However, this  
 "I dare say in his just defence; he never men-  
 "tioneth protestants but with due respect,  
 "and sometimes doth occasionally condemn  
 "the superstitious credulity of popish mira-  
 "cles. Besides, after he had resigned his  
 "mastership to Dr. Legge, he was constantly  
 "present at protestant prayers. If any say,  
 "all this amounts but to a lukewarm religi-  
 "on, we leave the heat of his faith to God's  
 "sole judgment, and the light of his good  
 "works to men's imitation." *Hist. Univ. Cambr.*

THAT

THAT our learned phyfician's retirement from the public bufinefs of his profeffion was not owing to a fit of gloomy diftaste to the world, or monkifh fuperftition, but a truly philofophic fondnefs for learned leifure, appears from the numerous pieces upon literary fubjects which afterwards came from his pen, and in which he was engaged to the laft period of his life. He appears to have been reduced to a ftate of great bodily weaknefs before his death; and from a curious paffage in Dr. Mouffet's *Health's Improvement*, or *Rules concerning Food*, we learn that he attempted to fuftain his decaying frame by reverting to the food of infancy. It is this.

“ What made Dr. Caius in his laft ficknefs fo  
“ peevifh and fo full of frets at Cambridge,  
“ when he fucked one woman (whom I fpare  
“ to name) froward of conditions and of bad  
“ diet; and contrariwife fo quiet and well  
“ when he fucked another of contrary dif-  
“ pofitions? verily the diverfity of their milks  
“ and conditions, which being contrary one  
“ to the other, wrought alfo in him that  
“ fucked them contrary effects.” There are  
not

not wanting other instances of the same regimen in valetudinarians.

HE died, after having foretold his death, on July 29, 1573, in the sixty-third year of his age. He was buried within the chapel of his own college, in a grave made some time before his decease; and by way of epitaph the following laconic inscription was put upon his tomb—FUI CAIUS.

FROM the preceding summary of the life of this celebrated person, it will appear that he was altogether a literary character; and we are furnished with ample materials for considering him in this light, not only from the numerous works of his still extant, but, in particular, from a treatise he drew up, in imitation of Galen, *concerning his own writings*. By this we are enabled not only to fix the date of all his productions, but to ascertain several other circumstances relative to them, which we are generally obliged, with regard to other authors, to supply by conjecture. It were to be wished that other eminent and voluminous writers would pay an equal regard

gard to the information of posterity. The great variety of the writings of Caius renders it necessary to distribute them into classes; and we shall separately consider those in which he appears as a critic and linguist, a physician, a naturalist, and an antiquary.

His accurate knowledge of the Greek and Latin languages, and his critical abilities, are amply evinced by his translations, his annotations, and the multitude of books of which he gave corrected editions. It has already been mentioned that his first essay in literature was the translation of certain devotional pieces from the Greek; and that he next employed himself in writing annotations on the posthumous Latin works of his friend Frammingham. These, together with the works themselves, were irrecoverably lost by those to whose hands they were entrusted during our author's absence in Italy.

WHILE he resided in that country he wrote commentaries upon Galen's nine books *De Administrationibus Anatomicis*, and his two books *De Motu Musculorum*. These he printed after



his return, together with a corrected edition of the originals, and of several other pieces of the same author, at the Frobenian press in Basil, in the year 1544. Indeed, the correction and elucidation of the works of this great physician seemed to be an object of all others the most interesting to him; and to this end he employed incredible labour in collating manuscripts and comparing parallel passages: and his industry and sagacity were attended with such success, that he not only gave much more correct editions of many of his pieces than had before appeared, but recovered some that were quite lost in obscurity and neglect.

THE same services he rendered in some degree to the great Father of physic, particularly by restoring his treatise *De Anatomia*, the substance of which had been concealed under another title; and that *De Medicamentis*, never before printed. It is obvious that the most profound and critical knowledge of the Greek language was requisite in the execution of these attempts; and it is probable that

no scholar in Europe was at that time superior, or perhaps equal to him, in that respect.

NOR were the early Latin medical writers less obliged to his critical labours. Celsus was the companion of his tour through the principal cities of Italy; and by a collation of several printed copies with the manuscripts at Florence and Urbino, he was enabled to make large emendations of that author, as well as of his cotemporary, Scribonius Largus. These he enriched with annotations; but it does not appear that they were ever committed to the press. At least, he mentions them as lying by him in manuscript two or three years before his death.

UNDER the head of his critical productions we must likewise rank a small treatise entitled *De Symphonia Vocum Britannicarum*, in which he attempted to shew the consonance of the English language with the Greek and Latin. This work, which was never published, we may suppose to have exhibited more classical learning than sagacity and justness of reasoning; since he seems to have built his theory

on the fabulous stories of the settlement of Brutus the Trojan and Alboina the daughter of a Grecian king, in our island: and we know, from later examples, how unfit any one unacquainted with the Teutonic basis of our language is for tracing its etymology and analogies.

ANOTHER subject, for which he was undoubtedly better qualified, gave rise to his latest critical performance. This was the genuine pronunciation of the Greek and Latin languages. It is somewhat extraordinary that so soon after the revival of letters in this kingdom, we should differ in our pronunciation of the learned languages from those who were our masters in them. This difference, we know, is at present very great. With regard to the Latin, we stand single in our manner of pronouncing the vowels, in opposition to every other nation in Europe. Caius, by his long continuance abroad, and connexion with foreign literati, was led to prefer their method. As to the Greek, he wished to have it pronounced after the manner of the modern Greeks, and not according  
to

to that introduced by Sir John Cheke, which, however, is agreed to be in all probability nearer to the original practice. His arguments in support of these opinions are not very conclusive; and this piece of his, though short, is prolix and trifling. It was not printed till the year after his death; and was reprinted together with some others of his small works, by Dr. Jebb, in 1729.

I SHALL conclude this part of his character by observing that his Latin style is remarkably pure and copious, and formed upon the best models of antiquity.

OUR author's thorough acquaintance with the works of Galen will entitle him to all the medical knowledge of the age, which was circumscribed within the limits of that physician's voluminous writings. For him, Caius expressed the profoundest esteem and veneration; and from a person thus prepossessed in favour of a particular master, we are not to expect many new experiments or discoveries in his profession. The original works in

medicine which he has left will, upon the whole, confirm this remark.

THE first, indeed, which he published can scarcely merit that appellation. It is entitled *De Medendi Methodo*, in two books, dedicated to Dr. Butts, physician to the king. It was drawn up during his abode in Italy, and printed at Basil in 1544. This is a general system of the practice of physic, formed upon the principles of his preceptor Baptista Montanus, and of Galen. He labours hard, however, in his own account of the work, to prove that it is not to be considered as a mere transcript; adducing a multitude of examples to shew that the most eminent authors have been imitators, without losing their title to originality. He claims the merit of arranging, selecting, and cloathing in more correct language the ideas of his preceptor; and ingeniously says, “Verba (ejus) expendimus, non numeravimus.” He also asserts that some things in his work are entirely his own. “Nam ut plura Galeno quam a Montano accepta sunt, ita quædam ex nostra  
“ officina



“ officina (ut de me modestius loquar) certe  
 “ promanarunt.”

THE next of his medical performances is, however, indisputably original; and the subject of it forms so curious an article in the annals of medicine, that we shall dwell upon it considerably at length. This is his account of the *Sweating Sicknefs*, or, as he named it, the *Ephemera Britannica*. Being a witness, during his residence at Shrewsbury in 1551, to the dreadful ravages made by this disease, he hastily drew up an English treatise concerning it, designed for the use of the people at large. It was dedicated to William earl of Pembroke, and entitled *A Boke or Conseill against the Disease commonly called the Sweat, or Sweating Sicknefs; made by John Caius, Doctor in Physic*, 1552, 12mo. This he some time afterwards revised, enlarged, and put into a more scientific form, and the Latin language; and published it in the year 1556, under the title *De Ephemera Britannica*. The dedication, to Anthony Perrenot, bishop of Arras, is dated January 1555. It was correctly reprinted at London in 1721.

IN this work we find the following account of the rise and appearance of this extraordinary disease.

It began in the army of the earl of Richmond, afterwards king Henry VII. upon his landing at Milford-haven in 1485,\* and spread to London, where it raged from the beginning of August to the end of October. It appeared in England four times afterwards at unequal intervals. In the summer of 1506. In 1517, from July to the middle of December. In 1528, during the whole summer. And, lastly, in 1551, from April to the end of September. Its attack was extremely sudden. It generally began

\* DR. FREIND, in his *History of Physick*, apparently transcribing his account of this disorder from Caius, says that it appeared first in 1483, yet adds the circumstance of its beginning in Henry's army at Milford. This he mentions as distinct from the visitation in 1485. That this learned writer has here fallen into a mistake, may be proved from our historians, who relate, that the earl of Richmond did indeed approach the coast of Cornwall with a fleet in 1483; but, on advice that the insurrection of his friends had proved unsuccessful, failed back without attempting to land.

with

with the affection of some particular part, occasioning in some a sense of a hot vapour running through the limb. To this succeeded extreme internal heat, unquenchable thirst, and most profuse sweating. Anxiety, restlessness, sickness, violent pain of the head, delirium, and excessive drowsiness attended its progress; and frequently in one, two, three, four, or more hours from the eruption of the sweat, the patient was carried off. The violence of the attack was over in fifteen hours; yet the sick person was not in a state of security till the expiration of twenty-four hours; whence the disease is, properly denominated by our author, an *Ephmera*. The persons most liable to the contagion were those in high health, of middle age, and of better rank and condition; children, poor and old people were less subject to its influence. The numbers carried off by it were incredible. In the town of Salop 960 died in a few days (*pauculis diebus*); and our physician labours the description of this calamity with all the strong colouring of a Thucydides.

In his reasonings concerning it, he first accounts

counts for its being an Ephemera from the supposition that it attacked the more subtle spirits ; whereas he conceives the plague and other fevers to attack the humours. He then proceeds to give his opinion concerning its origin and cause. He discusses the various sources of contagion ; considering separately the effects of untimely seasons, of noxious effluvia peculiar to certain places, and other contaminations of the air, and of planetary conjunctions. The immediate origin of the sickness in his time he attributes to certain thick and stinking fogs rising from the low grounds near Shrewsbury, which, being wafted by the wind, were perceived to carry the contagion with them. This general cause was, he says, augmented in particular situations by other sources of corrupt air ; such as close narrow streets, dunghills, privies, uncleansed drains, and the like. He strongly insists on the common notion of this distemper's being in a manner peculiar to the English ; asserting that it spared foreigners, even the Scotch, in England, and seized the English in foreign countries. This he imputes to the greater luxury in diet by which  
our

our countrymen were, it seems, even then distinguished from all other nations; and he confirms his conjecture by observing that the freest livers, and those of the most athletic habits, were attacked with the greatest violence.

THE method of prevention he proposes is well suited to his ideas of the causes of the infection. It consists in more abstemious living, the use of acidulous fruits and sauces, great attention to cleanliness, and free exposure to the open air. He recommends the kindling of fires both round the house and within doors; looking upon fire as a great corrector of contagion, and adducing an observation to this purpose, that smiths and cooks were preserved by their fires from the distemper. He directs aromatics and sweet-scented herbs of all kinds to be burned in these fires, and also to be frequently applied to the nose. He speaks with some reserve concerning evacuations, recommending gentle purgatives and bleeding only to the plethoric, and in them not later than the spring; since he thinks they should meet the danger



ger in summer with a body undisturbed and undebilitated by medicine.

THE method of cure turns upon the sole idea that the sweat, from whence the disease is denominated, is critical, and therefore to be promoted in the greatest profuseness, till the danger is over. With this view, he directs the person seized to lie down immediately, in the cloaths he happens to have on, and have the body completely covered (all but the face) with bed-cloaths; in which situation he is to remain perfectly still, not stirring a limb, if possible, nor putting a hand out of bed. He is to abstain from food the whole twenty-four hours; and even from drink the first five hours. Then a little ale or beer, or wine and water is to be given in small portions, and sucked through a spout, the patient still lying in the same posture. At the expiration of about fourteen hours, the bed-cloaths are gradually to be removed, and the sweating restrained; and after it is quite over, proper food is to be given to recruit the exhausted strength. This is the process when the sweat flows spontaneously. When this is not the case,

case, attempts must be made to excite it; and the means here directed are dry and warm friction, draughts of generous wine with *theriaca* or *mitbridate* or aromatics, vinegar whey, China root, and other sudorific medicines. By this method of practice, attentively pursued, and properly adapted to the circumstances, we are told that the disease, though so fatal when neglected or mismanaged, was got over with a tolerable certainty of success; so that, according to Lord Bacon's observation, it might be looked upon "rather as a surprise of nature, than obstinate to remedies."

VALUABLE as this treatise of our author's is, not only as giving the fullest account of so singular a distemper, but as containing many judicious practical remarks, we must, however, acknowledge that it is far from a perfect piece of medical writing. It is not long, yet many digressions, foreign to the subject, are admitted; and trivial matters are dwelt upon more at length than those of capital importance. Under the head of diet, the author takes occasion to launch out into

an enumeration of all the articles the tables of the luxurious at that time afforded. He employs several pages to describe the methods of making beer and ale, and the process of malting; and he concludes with a copious panegyric upon temperance, extracted from the antients. What we have most to regret, is the little light he affords us with respect to the first rise of the disease; and I cannot but suspect that he is guided merely by vulgar prejudice in supposing it so peculiar to this country. Its first appearance seems to have been neither amongst Englishmen, nor in England; but among the foreign levies of the Earl of Richmond, who had either brought it with them, or, more probably, generated it in the crowded transport-vessels on board of which they were embarked. This body of troops is described by a cotemporary historian (Philip de Comines) as the most wretched he had ever beheld; collected, we may suppose, from jails and hospitals, and buried in filth. A highly malignant and contagious disease might readily be produced in such circumstances; but why it should appear under so new and singular a form,

form, why this should be renewed so many times at irregular intervals, and should at length entirely cease, are questions perhaps impossible to be solved. That the climate of England was not essential to the existence of that disease, is rendered manifest by its raging with great violence in Germany and the Low Countries in 1529 and 1530; and that the persons of foreigners were not secure in England, appears from the death of Ammonius, a learned Italian, and a particular friend of Erasmus, in 1520, (in which year the sickness also prevailed in Calais;) and from the death of another of that nation, related by Caius himself. On the supposition of its being a fever of the putrid and malignant kind, we shall scarcely be able to account for its prevailing most among the rich and well-fed, contrary to what we now observe of that class of disorders; and, indeed, the vast numbers related to be swept away by it, evidently prove its frequency among the lowest ranks of people.\*

\* If 960 persons were carried off by it at Shrewsbury in a few days, the greater part of whom were neither children nor old people, of what rank in life must the majority have been?

IT may be further added concerning this piece of our author's, that he proposes it to students as an example of that universal method which he has laid down in his book *De medendi methodo*; and it must be acknowledged a very good specimen of the *order* to be observed in treating a medical subject, though not entirely so of the *manner*.

A BOOK *De Thermis Britannicis* is mentioned by him as one of the latest of his performances. It does not appear to have been ever printed; but from his account, it was a treatise concerning the nature, uses, effects and discovery of the warm baths in Britain; with a preface, in which he largely descanted on the natural advantages of our island, not only with respect to the production of the necessities, but the conveniences of life.

As a Naturalist, our physician appears in a very respectable light. He, like his cotemporary Dr. Turner, was a correspondent and intimate friend of the celebrated Gesner; for whose use he drew up his *short histories of certain rare animals and plants*, which were transmitted



mitted to Gesner at different times, and inserted in his works. They were afterwards collected into one book, enlarged and corrected, and printed by W. Seres, London, 1570. At the request of this great naturalist, he likewise composed a *Treatise on British Dogs*, which, at first hastily and rudely drawn up, was sent to Gesner by way of an unfinished sketch. This writer, however, dying of the plague in 1565, it never appeared in his works, though announced to the public; but was afterwards published by Caius himself, greatly improved and enlarged, in 1570. Both this and the former treatise have been reprinted by Dr. Jebb. The method made use of in the account of British Dogs seemed so judicious to Mr. Pennant, that he has inserted it entire in his *British Zoology*; and from his respectable authority I add, that all our author's other descriptions of animals are proofs of his great knowledge in this branch of Natural History. Gesner fully acknowledges the assistance he received from Caius, and always mentions him with great respect. In return, Caius most pathetically laments the death of his friend, and

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launches

launches out into a kind of funeral oration on this topic, in the middle of his book *De libris propriis*.

OUR author seems very early to have had a propensity to Antiquarian studies; for he projected a history of his native place, Norwich, about the time of his leaving the university, but was prevented by other occupations from executing his design. This taste he resumed pretty late in life, on the following occasion. Queen Elizabeth paying a visit to Cambridge in 1564, the public orator, in a speech before her, extolled the antiquity of that university, to the prejudice of that of Oxford. This incited one Thomas Key, or Caius, a fellow of All Soul's College, Oxford, to vindicate the honour of the seminary to which he belonged, in a publication, wherein he asserted that it was founded by some Greek philosophers, companions of Brutus, and restored by Alfred about the year 870. This was too great a triumph to be borne by the Cantabrigians; and accordingly, our physician, at the instigation of archbishop Parker, steps forth, and in a learned dissertation, to

which

which he affixed the signature of *Londinensis*, asserted the antiquity of his own university, and called in question that of Oxford. With all the forms of antiquarian certainty and precision, he establishes its foundation by one Cantaber, 394 years before Christ, and in the year of the world four thousand, three hundred, and odd. Thus, after defeating the Oxford claim from the companions of Brutus, yet allowing them an origin as far back as from Alfred, he gains a priority of time to Cambridge of 1267 years! This piece was first printed in 1568, and afterwards reprinted in 1574, with the addition of a *History of the University of Cambridge*, in two parts; one giving an account of its origin, antient state, and the foundation of the several Colleges; the other containing a complete description of it as it existed in his own time.

OTHER historical and antiquarian works which he composed, but which were never printed, are, a book *De Antiquis Britanniae urbibus*; the *Annals of the College of Physicians*; and *Annals of Gonerius and Caius College, Cambridge*. His treatise *De Libris suis*, in-

scribed to his friend Thomas Hatcher,\* from which our chief information concerning his writings is derived, was printed at London in 1570. At the conclusion of it he mentions a design, if his life was sufficiently prolonged, to write the history of Norwich, and to correct all the works of Galen.

FROM the view here given of this author's numerous performances, he will appear amply entitled to the praises of learning, method, accuracy and diligence. But the ostentatious display of that learning in digressions foreign to the point in hand, and the application of that diligence and accuracy to trivial and uninteresting objects, will scarcely allow us to extol him for that solidity of judgment, and enlargement of thought, which constitute the man of genius.

THE following is the complete list of his works, drawn up by himself.

#### EX NOSTRA COMPOSITIONE

*De medendi methodo, libros duos.*

*De Ephemera Britannica, duos.*

\* A PHYSICIAN, educated at Cambridge.

*De Ephemera Britannica ad populum Britannicum, unum.*

*De antiquitate Cantabrig. Academiæ, duos.*

*De historia Cantabrig. Academiæ, duos.*

*De canibus Britannicis, unum.*

*De rariorum animalium atque stirpium historia, unum.*

*De symphonia vocum Britannicarum, unum.*

*De thermis Britannicis, unum.*

*De libris Galeni qui non extant, unum.*

*De antiquis Britannicæ urbibus, unum.*

*De libris propriis, unum.*

*De pronuntiatione Græcæ & Latinæ linguæ cum scriptione nova, unum.*

*De annalibus Collegii Medicinæ Lond. unum.*

*De annalibus Collegii Govevilli & Caii, unum.*

*Compendium Erasmi libri de vera Theologia, unum.*

## COMMENTARIOS, SEU ANNOTATIONES

*In Cornelii Celsi de Medicina libros octo.*

*In Scribonii Largi de compositione medicamentorum librum unum.*

*In Frammingami opera omnia.*



*In libros Galeni de administrationibus anatomicis  
novem.*

*In ejusdem libros de motu musculorum duos.*

*De sanitate tuenda sex.*

*De Ptyssana unum.*

*De parva Sphæra unum.*

*Ad Thrasymbulum unum.*

*De ossibus ad tyrones unum.*

#### EX NOSTRA VERSIONE, LIBRUM

*De placitis Hippocratis & Platonis, primum.*

*De libris Galeni suis, unum.*

*De ordine librorum suorum, unum.*

*De Diæta in morbis acutis, unum.*

*Nicephori Callisti de confessione in orationibus,  
unum.*

*Chrysostomi de modo orandi Deum, unum.*

*Paraphrasis Erasmi in epistolam S. Judæ, unum.*

#### EX CASTIGATIONE NOSTRA, LIBROS

*De administrationibus anatomicis Galeni, novem.*

*De motu musculorum, duos.*

*De ossibus ad Tyrones, unum.*

*De compositione medicamentorum, decem & septem.*

*De*

*De simplicium medicamentorum facultatibus, undecim.*

*De placitis Hippocratis & Platonis, novem.*

*De medendi methodo, quatuordecim.*

*De libris suis, unum.*

*De ordine librorum suorum, unum.*

*De sanitate tuenda, sex.*

*De parva Sphæra, unum.*

*Ad Thrasymbulum, unum.*

*De Ptyssana, unum.*

*De victus ratione in morbis acutis, unum.*

*De succedaneis, unum.*

*De septimestri partu, unum.*

*De humoribus, unum.*

*De brevi designatione dogmatum Hippocratis, unum.*

*De usu partium, decem & septem.*

*De locis affectis, omnes; additis argumentis singulorum.*

*De febrium differentia, unum.*

*De morborum differentia, unum.*

*De morborum causis, unum.*

*De differentiis symptomatum, unum.*

*De causis symptomatum, tres.*

*De morborum temporibus, unum.*

*De purgantium medicamentorum potestate, unum.*

*De his qui purgandi sunt, quibus medicamentis,  
& quo tempore, unum.*

*De anatomia Hippocratis, unum.*

*De dissectione musculorum Galeni, unum.*

*De dissectione nervorum Galeni, unum.*

*De medicina libros octo Cornelii Celsi.*

*De compositione medicamentorum librum unum  
Scribonii.*

#### EX NOSTRA INVENTIONE, LIBRUM

*Primum de decretis Hippocratis & Platonis  
Græcum.*

*De Comate Græcum, unum.*

*Hippocratis de medicamentis Græcum, unum.*

*Fragmentum libri septimi de usu partium Galeni  
Græcum.*

*Bonam partem libri de succedaneis.*

*Et de Ptyssana quod defuit.*

#### WILLIAM CUNINGHAM.

**T**HE following account of the life and  
writings of this person is given by  
bishop

bishop Tanner. He was a physician in London, and resided in Coleman-street; and is much applauded by W. Bull for his knowledge in astronomy and physic. He also lived at Norwich in 1556—1559, as appears from a work of his, in which he gives a plate of the city of Norwich. He was a public lecturer in Surgeon's hall, London, in 1563. He wrote,

*Speculum Cosmographiæ, sive de principiis Cosmographiæ, Geographiæ, Hydrographiæ, sive Navigationis.* lib. V. London, 1559. fol. and 4to.

*Two Letters between W. C. and John Hall Chirurgeon, 1565, touching the Cure of the Pox.* M. S. Bodl.

*A New Almanac and Prognostication calculated for the longitude of London for the year 1566.* Lond. 1566. 8vo.

*An invective Epistle in Defence of Astrologers.* This is frequently quoted in William Fulke's *Invective against Astrologers*.

GALE, in his *Institution of a Chirurgeon*  
makes

makes mention of a work written by Cuning-  
ham, and intended for publication, on the ve-  
nereal disease, called by him *Chamæleontiasis*,  
from some supposed resemblance between per-  
sons afflicted with it and the chameleon. As  
this work never made its appearance, I shall  
quote that part of Gale's dialogue which re-  
lates to it.

“ *John Yates.* And doth not he number  
“ *Chamæleontiasis* among tumours against na-  
“ ture ?

“ *Thomas Gale.* Nothing less; for he ac-  
“ counteth all those tumours, swellings, knots,  
“ ulcers, and such like infesting the body of  
“ man, but as accidents, and no part of the  
“ infirmity; neither laboureth he so much in  
“ these, as in expelling the sickness which  
“ bringeth forth these accidents; for these are  
“ to be removed without difficulty or great  
“ travail.

“ *John Yates.* I judge his new invented  
“ way of curation to be extreme and dange-  
“ rous to the patient; for both the fumes,  
“ unguents,



“ unguents, and strait order of diet with the  
 “ woods, are well known to be dangerous,  
 “ and yet many times doth not that which  
 “ they promise. But yet if his way be perfect,  
 “ it is more to be liked, and he worthy  
 “ praise.

“ *John Feild.* His way is void of danger,  
 “ easy to the patient, exact also and perfect.”

DR. CUNINGHAM wrote prefatory epistles to some works of Gale and Halle, which shew him to have been a man of considerable learning. For the share he had in the works of the former, see his article.

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## WILLIAM BULLEYN

WAS born in the former part of Henry the eighth's reign, in the isle of Ely; and was nearly related to a family of the same name at Blaxhall in Suffolk. He was educated chiefly at Cambridge, though Wood mentions

tions him as laying a foundation of the liberal arts at Oxford. Where he particularly pursued the study of phyfic, and took his degree of doctor, we are not informed. The principal source of information concerning him is his own works. From these we learn that he was a great traveller in Germany, Scotland, and especially in his own country; the several products of which, particularly those of the vegetable kingdom, he assiduously enquired into. In, or before queen Mary's reign, he appears to have resided much about Norwich, making curious observations in the natural history of the place. He pursued the same objects in a longer residence at Blaxhall in Suffolk. He afterwards removed to the North, and was more permanently settled at Durham, where he practised in his profession with much reputation. He had a property in the salt-pans at Shields near Tinmouth castle; and was a particular favourite of Sir Thomas Hilton, baron of Hilton, who commanded this fortress under Philip and Mary. Soon after the death of this person, Dr. Bulleyn repaired to London; where he had not long been arrived, before he

he was greatly surprized by a charge preferred against him by Mr. William Hilton of Bidick for the murder of his brother, the Baron, who in reality died of a malignant fever. Upon this indictment he was actually arraigned before the duke of Norfolk, and the most unjustifiable means were used to procure his condemnation. He had, however, the good fortune to clear his own innocence, and detect the malice of his prosecutor. This happened in 1560. His implacable enemy afterwards hired some ruffians to assassinate him; and upon their failure, arrested him upon an action for debt, and threw him into prison, where he remained a long time. All these incidents, which are related by himself, appear not a little mysterious; but it is not worth while to supply the want of further information by conjecture. We know nothing more of his history, but that he became a member of the College of Physicians, and was in high repute for his learning and acquaintance with the antient physicians and naturalists. He appears to have been warmly attached to reformation principles in religion; and had a brother, who was a divine, and also

also an occasional practitioner in physic. Dr. Bulleyn died January 7, 1576, and was buried in St. Giles's church, Cripplegate, London.

THE writings of this physician deserve notice rather on account of the information they contain relative to the state of medicine in general in this country, than from any original observations or improvements suggested by their author; who appears to have been a man of more reading, than judgment or genius.

A BOOK of *Healthful Medicines*, which seems to have been his first attempt, perished by shipwreck.

HIS earliest printed work is entitled *The Government of Health*; of which the first edition in 8vo. is dated 1548. It is dedicated to his friend and patron baron Hilton, and has a wooden cut of the author prefixed. This is a very miscellaneous piece, containing an account of all the articles of food, and their several properties, and the method of preventing

preventing and curing all diseases, interspersed with moral reflexions and admonitions, as well in verse as in prose. It was probably a popular book, as it went through several editions.\*

A SMALL piece called *A Regimen against the Pleurisy*, dated 1562, is put next in the list of his works; but we have no particular account of it.

THE title of his next and largest performance is *Bullein's Bulwarke of Defence against all Sicknesse, Soarnesse, and Woundes that doe dayly assault Mankinde*. It is said to be "gathered and practised from the most worthy learned, both old and new;" and is dated March, 1562. My edition, which is not called a second, is printed, London, 1579, fol. This work is dedicated to Henry Cary, lord Hunsdon; and the author mentions that it was chiefly composed while he was in prison. It is divided into four parts. The first is *The Book of Simples*: the second, *A Dia-*

\* I HAVE not seen this piece, but take the account of it from the *Biographia Britannica*.



*logue between Sorenefs and Chirurgery, cocerning Apofthumations and Wounds: the third, The Book of Compounds: the fourth, The Book of the Ufe of ficke Men and Medicines. All thefe parts will afford us fome remarks or quotations.*

THE *Book of Simples* is an enumeration of the articles of the *Materia Medica*, chiefly compiled from the antients. Under the head of Water, the baths of Buckftone are fpoken of as having “done many and fundry good “cures, both to the fore and lame.” This is the earlieft mention I have found of thefe waters. Speaking of fruit, he gives additional proof to what we have before adduced, that gardening was not in fo low a ftate here at that period as fome have reprefented. He takes notice of a delicious kind of pear growing in the city of Norwich, called the black-fryar’s pear, thought to be the fineft in England. He mentions cherries as very plentiful, particularly in Kent; and fays he has feen very good grapes growing in feveral parts of England. A curious account is given of a kind of wild pea, growing fpontaneoufly

on

on the sea coast. “ *Anno salutis 1555*, in a  
 “ place called Orford in Suffolk, between the  
 “ haven and the mayne sea, whereas never  
 “ plough came, nor natural earth was, but  
 “ stones onely, there did pease grow, whose  
 “ rootes were more than three fadome long,  
 “ and the coddies did grow upon clusters lyke  
 “ the chats or keys of ashe trees, bigger than  
 “ fitches, and less than the field peason, very  
 “ sweete to eat upon, and served many poore  
 “ people dwelling there at hand, which els  
 “ should have perished for hunger, the scarcity  
 “ of bread was so great.” An odd mistake  
 which he relates concerning the exhibition of  
 the herb Mercury deserves to be noted by  
 way of caution. The lord Wharton was ac-  
 customed to take this plant medicinally in his  
 broth. In the absence of his cook, an igno-  
 rant fellow who undertook the office sent to  
 the apothecaries shop for Mercury Sublimate,  
 which he boiled in his lord’s broth, and was  
 very near killing him by the blunder. In  
 speaking of the Ebony wood, he mentions  
 certain superstitious uses to which beads made  
 of it were put, being employed as charms for  
 the cure of diseases. Under this head he in-

L

veighs

veighs with great warmth against the sin of witchcraft, affirming it to be "more hurtful" in this realm than either quartan, pox, or "pestilence;" and lamenting that "damnable" witches should be suffered to live unpunished, and so many blessed men burned." At the end of this book are some rude wooden cuts of chemical instruments and medicinal plants.

THE second book opens with the praises of several English medical writers, all of whom have already found a place in these memoirs, except THOMAS PANNEL or PAYNEL, the translator of the precepts of the *Schola Salernitana*. An alphabetical list of other eminent medical practitioners is given, in which several names of our countrymen occur, of whom I find no biographical or literary memoirs sufficient for a separate article. It may not be improper just to enumerate these. They are, Doctors Buns, Edwards, Hatcher, Fre-re, Langton, Lorkin, and Wendy, all of Cambridge; Doctors Gee, and Simon Ludford of Oxford; Doctors Bartley, Carr, Huyck (the queen's physician;) Masters, John

John Porter of Norwich; Surgeons Edmunds of York, and Robert Balthrop; and Thomas Colfe, Apothecary. The matter of this book is entirely chirurgical, and extracted from various authors. Towards the conclusion of it he gives a short account of his brother Richard Bulleyn's practice for the cure of the stone. It consists in the exhibition of aperients and diuretics, with the application of an emollient plaster to the reins, and a lubricating glyster every evening.

THE *Book of Compounds* is a miscellaneous collection of *formulae* both for external and internal medicines. There is nothing in this part so worthy of notice as the tribute of praise he offers to divers good ladies and gentlemen who benevolently employed themselves in curing their poor neighbours. It may not be foreign to the purpose of the present work to assist his laudable intention of commemorating these medical worthies by quoting the passage. "Many good men and women within this  
" realme have divers and fundry medicines for  
" the canker," (cancer, I suppose) "and do  
" help their neighbours that be in peril and  
L 2 " danger,

“ danger, which be not only poore and nec-  
 “ dy, having no money to spend in chirurge-  
 “ rie, but some do dwell where no chirurgians  
 “ be neere at hand. In such cases, as I have  
 “ sayd, many good gentlemen and ladyes  
 “ have done no small pleasure to poore peo-  
 “ ple: as that excellent knyght and worthy  
 “ learned man, Syr Thomas Eliot, whose  
 “ works be immortal; Syr Phillip Parris of  
 “ Cambridgshyre, whose cures deserve prayse;  
 “ Sir William Gascoygne of Yorkshyre, that  
 “ helped many fore eyen; and the Lady Tai-  
 “ lor of Huntingdonshyre, and the Lady  
 “ Darrel of Kent had many precious medicines  
 “ to comfort the sight, and to heale wounds  
 “ withal, and were well seene in herbs. The  
 “ commonwealth had great want of them  
 “ and theyr medicines; which if they had  
 “ come into my hands, they should not have  
 “ bin written on the backside of my booke.  
 “ Among all other there was a knyght, a  
 “ man of great worthyp, a godly hurtlesse  
 “ gentleman, which is departed this lyfe; his  
 “ name is Syr Anthony Heveningham (of  
 “ Heningham, Suffolk.) This gentleman  
 “ learned a water to kill a canker of his own  
 “ mother,



“mother, &c.” Towards the conclusion of this book the author gives a particular account of the cure of the venereal disease by Guaiacum; in the administration of which, he says, few men are to be compared to Thomas Glanfield, a skillful surgeon in London.

THE *Book of the Use of sick Men and Medicines*, contains rules for the administration of purgatives, bleeding, &c. precepts concerning diet; observations on the effects of the passions, on prognostic signs, and variety of miscellaneous matter. As respectful as he has before shewn himself to empirics of rank and quality, he takes occasion in this part to speak with acrimony of one John Preston, or John of Stoneham, an old Suffolk quack, much resorted to at that time.

THE last and most singular of Dr. Bulleyn's publications is entitled, *A Dialogue both pleasant and pietifull; wherein is a goodlie Regiment against the Fever Pestilence; with a Consolation and Comfort against Death*. 8vo. 1564. It is dedicated to Edward Barret, of Belhouse in Essex, Esq. at whose seat part of it was

L 3 written.

written. This is more heterogeneous than any of his other pieces. It is a dialogue of twelve interlocutors, in which one remarkable character, description, or story is started after another, with very little appearance of method or connexion. Several parts of it, however, are curious and entertaining, and show the author to have been possessed of a considerable share of fancy. Such is the description of a tablature representing our old English poets, Chaucer, Gower, Lidgate, Skelton, and Barclay. The scene of part of the dialogue is laid at an inn in Barnet, where a number of emblematical pictures supposed to be in the house, afford further scope for our author's invention. This, with several other circumstances in the book, show that he had the Canterbury Tales in his eye. The medical part is not above a seventh of the whole volume; it contains an account of the causes, symptoms, and treatment of the plague collected from various authors; and the particular occasion of writing it was the pestilential disorder which raged in England in 1563.\* It may be observed that the general

\* THE preceding account of this piece is copied from the *Biograph. Britann.*

idea of this work, in which the dialogue arises from a number of persons retiring from the danger of the plague, is obviously imitated from the Decameron of Boccace; but, with much more propriety, he makes their discourse chiefly turn upon moral and religious subjects.

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## RICHARD CALDWALL

WAS born in Staffordshire, and educated in Brazen-Nose College, Oxford, of which he became fellow. He went through his medical studies with great reputation; and after graduating, settled in London, where he was admitted into the College of Physicians, and created censor, in the same day; and in less than six weeks was made one of the elects. In the year 1570 he became president of that society. He is justly entitled to the grateful remembrance of his brethren, by founding, together with the lord Lumley, a chirurgical and anatomical lecture in the College, for

the support of which a perpetual rent charge of forty pounds per annum was laid upon their estates. The royal permission for this purpose was obtained from queen Elizabeth, in the twenty-fourth year of her reign. It was in the course of these lectures that, as will hereafter be more particularly observed, the true doctrine of the circulation was first made public by Dr. Harvey.

DR. CALDWALL died in 1585, and was buried in St. Benedict's church, near Paul's wharf, London,

HE was the author of a translation of the *Tables of Surgery*, written originally by Horatio More, a Florentine physician. It was printed after his death, at London, in 1585. From a prefatory epistle of E. Caldwell's, the editor, it appears that Dr. Caldwell left behind him a great many medical and surgical pieces in manuscript.

JOHN

## J O H N S E C U R I S

WAS born in Wiltshire, and studied with great reputation in New College, Oxford, in the reign of Edward VI. From thence he went to Paris, where he diligently pursued astronomical and medical studies; the latter under the celebrated professor Silvius. On his return, he settled at Salisbury, and was much resorted to for his skill in the practice of physic.

HE published annual pieces, which he called *Prognosticons*; which appear to have been a kind of almanacs, accompanied with astronomical predictions and medical precepts. Anthony Wood had seen two of them, for the years 1579 and 1580. To the latter was added *A Compendium, or brief Instructions how to keep a moderate Diet.*

HE was likewise the author of *A Detection*  
and



*and Querimony of the daily Enormities and Abuses committed in Physick, concerning the Three Parts thereof.* Lond. 1566. This is a little treatise, wrote with learning and plaufibility, on the often repeated complaint of the intrusion of irregularly educated persons into the practice of physick, and the presumption of surgeons and apothecaries in taking upon them to act the physician. A peroration in verse, addressed to the two universities, is subjoined. When the false and idle theories, in the knowledge of which the medical education of the schools at that time consisted, are considered, it will probably be thought that the public did not suffer so much from unlearned practitioners, as the regulars of the faculty represented. This work of Securis's, however, was thought to have so much merit, that it was reprinted in 1662, and published along with Record's *Judicial of Urines*. The author is not named in the title page, but is called "A Doctor of Physick in Queen Elizabeth's Days."

IN this piece is a reference to one he had printed about the year 1554, with this odd title,

title, *A great Galley lately come into England out of Terra Nova, laden with Physicians, Surgeons, and Potbecaries.*

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## J O H N J O N E S.

THE little that we know of his history is, that he was either born in Wales, or was of Welsh extraction: that he studied at both our universities, especially Cambridge, where he took a medical degree; and that he became eminent for the practice in his profession at Bath, and in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. He mentions curing a person at Louth in 1562; and the date of his last publication is 1579.

He was author of the following pieces.

*The Dial of Agues.* Lond. 1556.

*The Benefit of the antient Bathes of Buckstone,*  
which

*which cureth most grievous Sicknesſes.* Lond. 1572. This is dated from King's Mede, near Derby, and dedicated to George Talbot Earl of Shrewsbury, who had built a large lodging house at Buxton, and added other conveniences to the baths. The work contains very little concerning either the nature or history of these baths; but chiefly general directions, compiled from ancient authors, relative to the diet and regimen proper to be used with a course of bathing. He supposes a little sulphur, but not much of any mineral substance to be contained in the Buxton waters; and peculiarly characterizes them from their pleasant, delicate, and moderate temperature; from thence inferring their efficacy in depravation, diminution, and abolition of the action of the parts.

*The bathes of Bath's ayde, wonderful and most excellent against very many Sicknesſes.* Lond. 1572. This is dated from Asple hall near Nottingham, and dedicated to Henry Earl of Pembroke. An address is prefixed "to his friends, kinsfolk and allies of Bath, Bristol, Wells and other neighbouring places."

He

He begins his work with establishing the fame and antiquity of the baths of Bath, and gives a genealogy of king Bladud up to Adam. In his second part, a good deal of learning is displayed on the cause of heat in thermal waters; which he, with Aristotle, supposes to be subterranean fire. The third chapter chiefly turns upon the Galenical distinction of things natural, nonnatural, and contrary to nature. The fourth is more proper to his subject, containing rules for the use of the Bath waters. He mentions drinking the water, as well as bathing; and recommends as much as the stomach will bear, the first thing in morning. The time directed for staying in the bath is, for persons of a hot temperament, weak and thin, from five to six in the morning, and the same in the evening; for those of a contrary habit, two hours in the morning, and an hour and a half in the evening. Our author says he is the second person after Dr. Turner who has taken notice of these waters. We have seen, however, that Bulleyn just mentions them.

*A brief, excellent and profitable discourse of  
the*

158      E T H E R I D G E.

*the natural beginning of all growing and living things, heat, generation, &c. Lond. 1574.*

*A translation from Latin into English of Galen's four books of Elements. Lond. 1574.*  
Quære—is not this the same with the preceding piece?

*The art and science of preserving of body and soul in health, wisdom, and catholic religion.*  
1579. 4to.

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G E O R G E   E T H E R I D G E

WAS born in the year 1518, at Thame in Oxfordshire; and admitted a scholar of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in 1534, of which he was made probationer fellow in 1543. In this university he pursued the study of physic, together with those liberal and ornamental parts of science for which that seat of learning has always been famed. He  
taught



taught Greek privately several years in the university before the year 1553, when he was made Regius professor of that language. This post he retained till some time after the accession of queen Elizabeth, when, on account of his having been active against the protestants in Mary's reign, he was obliged to relinquish it. He likewise suffered much at this time from frequent imprisonments. He continued, however, steadfast to the Romish faith, in which he had been zealously educated; and for his support pursued the practice of physic in and about Oxford, chiefly among those of his own communion. He also took into his family, as boarders, the children of several popish gentlemen, whom he instructed in the rudiments of science. In this station he maintained a high character, not only for medical knowledge, but for skill in the mathematics, in Hebrew and the learned languages, in music and poetry. Leland the antiquary was his intimate friend, and has celebrated him in his verses. He was living in 1588.

BESIDES various translations and poetical  
works

works (of which one of the most remarkable is a version of the first book of the *Æneid* into Greek heroic verse) he wrote

*Hypomnemata quædam in aliquot libros Pauli Æginetæ, seu observationes medicamentorum quæ hac ætate in usu sunt.* Lond. 1588. This is a small piece, dedicated to Sir Walter Mildmay, with a prefatory epistle in Greek to the College of Physicians. Its purport is, to add by way of comment to the practical part of Paulus Ægineta an account of such remedies as were principally used in his own time. These, we find, almost entirely consisted of purgative, bitter, and emollient vegetable simples, with the compound electuaries and pills of antient invention; and his work is little more than a collection of prescriptions of this sort, accommodated to different diseases. He takes notice of the *Sweating Sicknefs* that raged in Edward the sixth's time, and remarks that few died of it at Oxford; which he attributes to the superior purity of its air.

SIR GEORGE ETHERIDGE, the dramatic writer, is said to have been descended from the same family with this physician.

GEORGE

## G E O R G E B A K E R

WAS a surgeon in London; surgeon in ordinary to queen Elizabeth, and master of the company in 1597. He was author of the following works.

A TRANSLATION into English of the third book of *Galen De Compositione Medica*. Lond. 1574, 8vo. and 1599, 4to.

*On Oleum Magistrale. A Method of curing Wounds in the Limbs. On the Vulgar Errors of Surgeons.* Printed together, Lond. 1574. 8vo.

*The New Jewel of Health*; a work translated from *Gesner's Euonimus*. Lond. 1570 and 1599. 4to. This is a piece treating of the preparation of chemical remedies. The title of the edition in 1599 is *The Practise of the New and Old Phisicke*. It is full of wooden cuts of chemical instruments, and is dedicated to the countess of Oxford.

M. A PRE-

A PREFACE to *Gerrard's Herbal*. Lond.  
1597 and 1636.

*An Antidotary of select Medicines*. Lond.  
1579. 4to.

*On the Nature and Properties of Quicksilver*, inserted in Clowes's *Treatise on the Lues Venerea*, 1584. This is entirely extracted from other authors; as, indeed, all his works seem to have been.

HE corrected an old translation of *Guido's Questions in Chirurgery*, and Barth. Tracy's translation of *Vigo's Chirurgical Works*; the former of which was reprinted in 1579, the latter in 1586.

JOHNSON, in the preface to his translation of Ambrose Parey's *Works*, says, that "G. Baker, surgeon in London, translated the apology and voyages of Parey, since which, as he hears, he is dead beyond sea."

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JOHN BANISTER, OR BANESTER

WAS descended from parents of good condition, but in what part of the kingdom they lived, we are not informed. He studied at Oxford; and after applying for some time to the fundamental parts of science, he entered on the physic line. In 1573 he took a bachelor's degree, and obtained a license from the university to practise; and settling about that time at Nottingham, he resided there many years in great reputation both as a physician and a surgeon. His fame appears to have been at the highest about the middle of queen Elizabeth's reign. When or where he died is unknown; but it was probably at London, as there was a long memorial of him in St. Olave's church, Silver-street. From an epistle of Clowes's, prefixed to one of Banister's works, it appears that they both were at the same time in the service of the earl of Warwick. He was author of the following works.



*A needful, new, and necessary Treatise of Chirurgery, briefly comprehending the general and particular Cure of Ulcers.* Lond. 1575. 8vo. This is dedicated to Thomas Stanhope, Esq. high sheriff of Nottinghamshire. The substance of the work is extracted from various authors, antient and modern; particularly Galen, Calmetius, and Tagaltius. It is by no means devoid of learning and method; but contains no improvement of theory or practice which can be cited as the writer's own. Several recipes of topical medicines of his own invention are indeed subjoined, but it is well understood at present how little merit there is in multiplying compound formulæ, to the number of which every practitioner may add at pleasure.

*The History of Man, sucked from the Sap of the most approved Anatomists: Nine Books.* Lond. 1578. fol. Of this piece, Dr. Douglas, in his *Bibliographia Anatomica*, says, “Opus  
“ hocce duabus figuris sceleti humani ac to-  
“ tidem partium externarum a Vesalio de-  
“ sumptis, sed misere depravatis, ornatur.”

*Compen-*

*Compendious Chirurgery; gathered and translated especially out of Wecker.* Lond. 1585. 12mo. This is not a mere translation; but at the end of each chapter annotations are added, in which the author's errors are frequently corrected, and his deficiencies supplied from other writers, or the translator's own experience, with considerable learning and judgment. Indeed, Wecker was an author who greatly required such an annotator, being a fervile copyist of the antients, without reflexion or method. One of the most important corrections made by Banister, is his declaration against the use of caustic applications in punctures, and stitching in incised wounds, of the tendons, which Wecker had recommended.

*Antidotary Chirurgical, containing Variety of all Sorts of Medicines, &c.* Lond. 1589. 8vo. This is dedicated to the earl of Warwick. It is a large collection of chirurgical formulæ, gathered out of various authors, with the addition of several of his own, and of cotemporary English surgeons. Some of these last are of an elegant simplicity, and are in general

less compound than those of foreign practitioners. Those of Balthrop are among the best.

BANISTER's chirurgical works were collected into six books after his death, and printed at London in 1633, in 4to.

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## W A L T E R B A L E Y

WAS born in 1529 at Portsham in Dorsetshire, and educated at Winchester school. He was admitted perpetual fellow of New College, Oxford, after two years probationship, in 1550; and entering upon the physick line, was licensed to practise in 1558, while he was proctor of the university. About the same time he was made a prebendary in the cathedral of Wells, which office he resigned in 1579. In 1561 he was appointed Queen's professor of physick in Oxford, and two years afterwards took his degree of Doctor. At length he became physician to queen Elizabeth,

beth, and had a large share of medical practice. He died March 3, 1592, aged 63, and was buried in the chapel of New College.

He is the author of

*A Discourse of Three Kinds of Pepper in common Use*, printed 1588. 8vo.

*A brief Treatise of the Preservation of the Eye-sight*; printed first in the reign of Elizabeth, and reprinted in 1616 and 1654, and likewise in 1622, along with *Banister's Breviary and the 113 Diseases of the Eyes*. It is a compilation chiefly from the antients; and with a few good rules, contains many fanciful and idle notions concerning the *juvantia* and *ludentia* of the eyes, with extraordinary recommendations of the herb *Eye-bright*. To the edition of 1616 is added a second *Treatise of the Eye-sight*, collected from Fernelius and Riolanus.

*Directions for Health, natural and artificial, with Medicines for all Diseases of the Eyes*, printed 1626. 4to.

*A brief Discourse of certain Medicinal Waters  
in the County of Warwick near Newnam. 1587.  
12mo.*

IN the library of Robert earl of Aylesbury was a M.S. of our author's, entitled *Explicatio Galeni de potu convalescentium & senum, & præcipué de nostræ Alæ & Biræ paratione.*

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## THOMAS MOUFET, OR MUFFETT

WAS born in London; and in that city received the rudiments of learning. After spending some time at Cambridge, he travelled through several countries in Europe, and contracted an acquaintance with many of the most eminent foreign physicians and chemists, whose opinions he imbibed. He took the degree of doctor abroad; and on his return practised in his native city with great reputation. He resided for some time at Ipswich. He was particularly patronized by Peregrine Bertie, lord Willoughby, whom he accom-  
panied



panied in his journey to carry the king of Denmark the ensigns of the order of the Garter. He mentions having been in camp with the earl of Essex in Normandy; which must probably have been in 1591. The latter part of his life he passed much at Bulbridge, near Wilton, in Wilts, in the capacity of a retainer to the Pembroke family, from which he received an annual pension, chiefly by the favour of that celebrated lady, Mary, countess of Pembroke. In this retirement he died about the end of queen Elizabeth's reign. He had an elder brother who resided at Aldham hall in Essex.

DR. MOUFET was a writer of considerable note; and appears to have been one of the earliest introducers of chemical medicines in England. The title of his first publication is

*De jure & præstantia Chemicorum Medicamentorum, Dialogus Apologeticus.* Francof. 1584. This is an acute well-written apology for the chemical sect in medicine, which then began to prevail greatly in Germany and other countries, but met with violent opposition. The dialogue is a kind of disputation between  
a Chemist

a Chemist and a Galenist; the latter of whom, however, is very willing to be convinced. The Chemist enumerates many eminent men who favoured his sect; among whom are Montanus, Fernelius, Villanovanus, Fracastorius, Cardan, Gesner, Platerus, and Severinus. He enters into an explanation of the Paracelsian doctrine of the double life in animals, one, which acts in themselves, the other, which acts upon other bodies; which doctrine seems only to be an extension of the word life, to signify every thing that is capable of agency. He then defends the chemical practice of extracting by means of menstrua or the action of fire the active parts of vegetable simples; and falls into a keen raillery of the Galenical compounds, and the loads of nauseous drugs exhibited by that sect of physicians. To these he proposes the substitution of tinctures and essential oils. He next considers the mineral class of medicines, and defends their use against the objections of the Galenist, proving that both antients and moderns of their own school employed such of them as they were acquainted with. Here are some very odd names of chemical *medicamenta* *nostrum*

nostrums of different authors introduced; as *Ostruthium*, *Thielæum*, *Oxylæum*, *Orionium*, *Paetolus*, *Turtur*, *Aquila*, and *Draco*. He argues sensibly against the objections drawn from the corrosive and violent nature of some chemical medicines, particularly oil of Vitriol, Mercury, and Antimony. These are the principal matters treated of in this short work; which exhibits a good deal of learning, and skill in argumentation.

To this piece, in the *Theatrum Chemicum*, 1602, are subjoined

*Epistolæ quinque Medicinales, ab eodem Auctore conscriptæ.* They are all dated from London in the years 1582, 83, and 84. The first of these contains a defence of Paracelsus, intermixed with some keen reflexions on Hippocrates, Galen, and their followers. The second exposes some of the fanciful reasonings of Galen, and maintains the propriety of reasoning from the evidence of our senses, rather than from imaginary hypotheses. The third contains some very sensible and liberal remarks against absolute submission to the authority of  
great

great names, or leaders of a sect. Here also are introduced some further attacks on antient medical doctrines. The fourth gives the application of the chemical principles, salt, sulphur, and mercury, to the phænomena of the human body, and the theory of diseases; and is a most striking proof how blind a person may be to nonsense and absurdities of his own sect, while he is sharp-sighted enough in detecting them in others. The last epistle treats on the benefits of foreign travel to a physician, and contains some exhortations to the study of chemistry. Padua is the medical school particularly recommended by this writer.

ANOTHER work of our author's is entitled

*Nosomantica Hippocratica, sive Hippocratis Prognostica cuncta, ex omnibus ipsius scriptis methodice digesta. Lib. IX. Francof. 1588. 8vo.* I have not seen this piece, but its title seems sufficiently to bespeak its nature. It may serve as an additional proof of the profound learning of the author; and will likewise shew how far he was from the folly and extravagance of some of the chemical sect, particularly  
Paracelsus,

Paracelsus, who treated with contempt the writings of the venerable father of physic.

THE latest medical work of Moufet's is his *Health's Improvement; or Rules comprizing and discovering the Nature, Method, and Manner of preparing all Sorts of Food used in this Nation*. This was published, corrected and enlarged, by Christopher Bennet, at London, 1655. 4to. It is a curious and entertaining work, as well on account of the numerous anecdotes and observations quoted from the antients, as the information contained in it respecting the diet used in this country at the time he wrote. As to the practical part of it, though there are many good rules and maxims derived from experience, yet the want of just principles by which to estimate the nature of different kinds of food (a defect common to almost all dietists) and credulity with respect to facts related by old writers, render his reasonings of little value. It is somewhat surprizing that *he* should admit the fanciful distinctions of Galen founded on the qualities of heat, cold, dryness, and moisture; the fallacy of which he seems so well apprized of

in



in his chemical pieces. He was not one of those rigid dietists who entirely exclude the pleasures of the table; on the contrary, a cook might learn something from his book, as well as a physician. His concluding aphorism certainly is not quite in the style of Cornaro. "If our breakfast be of liquid and  
 "supping meats, our dinner moist, and of  
 "boiled meats, and our supper chiefly of  
 "roasted meats, a very good order is observed  
 "therein, agreeable both to art, and the  
 "natures of most men."

SEVERAL curious observations in natural history are interspersed in his enumeration of the several articles of diet; and our learned physician distinguished himself more particularly as a naturalist, by enlarging and finishing, with great labour and expence, a work entitled

*Insectorum sive minimorum Animalium Theatrum; olim ab Edw. Wottono, Conrado Gesnero, Thomaque Pennio inchoatum.* This he left behind him in M. S.; and it was published at London in 1634 by Sir Theod. Mayerne, into

into whose hands it came by means of one Darnel, who had been Moufet's apothecary. Some imperfect copies of it, however, had been printed by Laur. Scholzius in 1598. It was translated into English, and published in 1658. Haller, in his notes on Boerhaave's *Meth. stud. medic.* speaks thus of this work. — "Pro sua ætate satis copiosus, species  
 "multiplicavit, receptis varietatibus, icones  
 "dedit satis bonas, descriptiones nimis philo-  
 "logicas, neque copiosas satis, fabularum ju-  
 "gum non excussit, minime tamen sua laude  
 "fraudandus, & Entomologorum ante Swam-  
 "merdamium princeps."

SIR Theod. Mayerne complains much in an epistle prefixed to this work, of the great difficulty he found in getting a printer to undertake it; several in various countries having refused his offer.

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## WILLIAM GILBERT, OR GILBERD

WAS born in the year 1540 at Colchester, of which borough his father had been recorder.

He

He is said by Wood to have been educated in both our universities; but his epitaph mentions only Cambridge. After studying here some time, he travelled abroad for further improvement in those branches of science to which he was particularly addicted; and probably took the degree of Doctor of Physic in some foreign university. He returned to his own country with a high character for philosophical and chemical knowledge; and was made a member of the College of Physicians in London. In this city he settled about the year 1573; and practised with so much reputation and success, that he at length became first physician to queen Elizabeth, in which office he continued during the life of that princess. The vacancies from the duties of his profession he employed in the pursuit of philosophical experiments, particularly relative to the magnet; and in these he was assisted by a pension from queen Elizabeth; a circumstance which deserves mentioning to her honour; and the rather, as she was accounted sparing of pecuniary favours, especially in the encouragement of literature. We are informed of no other circumstances concerning the  
life

life of this learned man, who died, unmarried, November 20, 1603, aged 63, and was buried in his native place, where a handsome monument was erected to his memory by his brothers. He left all his books, globes, mathematical instruments, and cabinet of minerals, to the College of Physicians. His picture, which represents him as of a tall stature and chearful countenance, is in the gallery over the schools at Oxford.

THE capital work of Dr. Gilbert, entitled *De Magnete, Magneticisque Corporibus, & de Magno Magnete Tellure, Physiologia nova*, was first published at London in 1600, and has been reprinted in Germany. This is not only the earliest complete system of magnetism, but also one of first specimens of a philosophical system built upon experiments, after the manner so much insisted on afterwards by the great lord Bacon. It is copious, methodical and accurate, as might be expected from an author who kept his M.S. under revision near double the time recommended by Horace. He begins with relating all that had been observed by the antients and

N

moderns

moderns on the nature of the magnet; and among the latter, mentions several of our countrymen, to whom both the variation and declination of the needle were known. The discovery of this last property, particularly, he ascribes to one Robert Norman. Then, after having discussed the various names of the loadstone, and their etymology, he devotes the rest of the book to an account of its various phenomena and properties. These he divides into the following heads. 1. Its attraction. 2. Its direction to the poles of the earth, and the earth's verticity and fixedness to certain points of the world. 3. Its variation. 4. Its declination. All these he illustrates by a multitude of experiments, and various diagrams; and he attempts to account for the whole upon the hypothesis of the earth's being one vast magnet. Various practical inferences of importance to navigation are deduced, particularly the great use of the declination in discovering the latitude at sea.

THIS work has been applauded by several men of learning and eminence; as lord Bacon, Dr. Hakewill, Sir Kenelm Digby, and Dr. Barrow.



Barrow. The first of these, speaks of it in the following manner: “Gilbertus nostras, cum  
 “naturam Magnetis, laboriosissime, & mag-  
 “na judicii firmitudine & constantia, nec  
 “non experimentorum magno comitatu &  
 “fere agmine perscrutatus esset, confinxit  
 “statim philosophiam consentaneam rei apud  
 “ipsum præpollenti.”

*Franc. Bacon. Opera.*

It would appear, however, from a passage in his epitaph, that its reputation stood higher abroad than in his own country. It is this. “*Librum de Magnete apud exteros celebrem in rem nauticam composuit.*” Joseph Scaliger, however, upon whose opinion our author had animadverted in his book, exercised the well-known severity of his pen against it, representing the work as no-wise equal to the expectations it had excited.

DR. GILBERT’S attention to the nautical art further appeared by the invention of two instruments of very ingenious mechanism, for ascertaining the latitude of any place without the assistance of the sun, moon or stars. This

invention was published in 1602 by Thomas Blondewille, in a book entitled *Theoriques of the Planets, &c.*

ANOTHER work of our author's, entitled *De Mundo nostro sublunari Philosophia nova*, was printed long after his death, at Amsterdam, in 1651, from two M. S. copies in the library of Sir William Boswell. The scattered papers composing it, were collected with a view to publication by his brother, and were by him dedicated to prince Henry; however something prevented his intention, and it did not appear till the learned Gruter gave it to the public at the time before-mentioned.

THE design of the work was no less than to establish a new system of natural philosophy upon the ruins of that of Aristotle, which he attacks with great vigour and success. Like many others, however, he was more successful in pulling down systems than building them. Some just conceptions are mixed with much extravagant hypothesis, as absurd as what he attempted to explode. He, in common with the great Kepler, supposed the  
heavenly

heavenly bodies to be all a sort of animated beings, possessing an intelligent principle. His beloved Magnetism also comes into frequent application. On the whole, this piece seems not to have excited the public attention in any great degree, nor added much to the author's reputation.

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## J O H N H A L L E.

**D**R. Douglas, in his *Bibliogr. Anat.* calls this person *Chirurgus Londinensis*, and he entitles himself one of the Company of Surgeons in London; it appears, however, from his works, that he was, for some time, at least, settled at Maidstone in Kent. Clowes calls him "Master John Hall, chirurgion of Maidstone, a most famous man." From his picture prefixed to his book, dated 1564, *ætat.* 35, he must have been born in 1529. This is all I can discover towards his history.

He published, in 1565, a 4to. volume, containing a translation of the *Chirurgia Parva*

of *Lanfranc*; a *Compendium of Anatomy*; and an *Historical Expostulation against Abuses in Physic and Surgery*. In an epistle dedicatory to the Company of Surgeons, the author acquaints us that the *Chirurgia Parva* was translated about two hundred years before, out of French into Saxon English. This translation, he says, he has not only put into more modern language, but has rendered more correct by collating several copies of the original. It is followed by an *Expositive Table*, explaining in alphabetical order the difficult words, and the names and natures of the diseases and simples mentioned by *Lanfranc*. This is drawn up with a good deal of learning and judgment for the time.

HIS *Very frutefull and necessary briefe Worke of Anatomie*, is a short piece, chiefly collected from other authors, divided into three treatises, and designed principally for the assistance of practitioners in surgery. Two rude cuts, exhibiting a fore and back view of the body, with references for the names of the external parts, are subjoined. He calls his work a more useful and profitable one of the kind  
than

than *any* hitherto published in the English tongue; yet says that the *first* anatomical treatise in the English language was that published by Thomas Vicary, in 1548: what others appeared in this short interval I cannot find.

His *Historical Expostulation against the beastlye Abusers, both of Chyrurgerie and Physicke in oure Tyme, &c.* consists chiefly of accounts of certain medical and astrological impostors, who visited Maidstone and the adjacent parts while Halle resided there. From the specimens he gives of some of their bills, and the relation of their artifices to impose on the credulous vulgar, it appears that quackery has been the same thing from its earliest date to the present time, excepting that the character of conjuror is not now so often annexed to it. The author subjoins to this *Expostulation* some sober advice to regular practitioners, much better than the poetry in which it is cloathed; and concludes the whole with prayers for the use of surgeons.

TANNER says he wrote, besides the above-mentioned works,



THE *Court of Virtue*, containing certain  
godly hymns with musical notes. Lond. 1565.  
8vo.

TRANSLATIONS of Bened. Victorius *De*  
*Curat. Luis Venereæ*, and of Nicholas Massa  
*De Curat. ejusd. per Fumigationem*.

*Epistles to W. Cunningham, M. D.*

*Directions concerning the Composition and Ad-*  
*ministration of Medicines used in Chirurgery.*  
All these last in M. S.

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## JOHN DAVID RHESE

WAS born at Llanvaethley in the isle of  
Anglesea in 1534; and after about three years  
residence in Oxford, was elected fellow of  
Christ Church College in 1555. Without  
taking a degree in this university, he travelled  
abroad, and was made a doctor of physic at  
Sienna in Tuscany. He acquired so perfect  
a knowledge of the Italian language, that he  
was

was appointed public moderator of the school of Pistoia in Tuscany, and wrote books in that tongue which were much esteemed by the Italians themselves. On his return, with a high reputation for medical and critical learning of all kinds, he, notwithstanding, buried himself at Brecknock, where he passed the greater part of his life in literary pursuits and the practice of his profession, and where he died about the year 1609. His constant adherence to the Roman catholic religion was probably a great cause of his continuing in this obscure situation.

His works are,

*Rules for the obtaining of the Latin Tongue*, written in the Tuscan language and printed at Venice.

*De Italicæ Linguae Pronunciatione.* Latin. Printed at Padua.

*Cambrae Britannicæ, Cymeræcæve Linguae Institutiones & Rudimenta, &c. ad intelligend. Bibliam sacram nuper in Cambro-Britannicum sermonem eleganter versam.* Lond. 1592. fol.

THERE

THERE was likewise in Jesus College library a M. S. *Compendium of Aristotle's Metaphysics* in the Welsh language, by our author; in which book he asserts that this tongue is as copious and proper for the expression of philosophical terms, as the Greek or any other language.

SEVERAL other valuable tracts, which are entirely lost, were written by Dr. Rhese, who was accounted one of the great luminaries of antient British literature.

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## W I L L I A M   B U T L E R.

WAS born at Ipswich, about the year 1535; and educated at Clare Hall, Cambridge, of which he became fellow. Without taking a medical degree, he settled at Cambridge as a physician, and in time came to be the most popular and celebrated practitioner of physic in the kingdom. The means by which he arrived at this eminence, were somewhat different from those employed by most of his predecessors

predecessors in fame, but have been used to advantage by several of his successors. It does not appear that, like Linacre or Caius, he made himself conspicuous for critical, polite, or philosophical knowledge; but he seems to have been bold and singular in his practice, and to have possessed a natural sagacity in judging of diseases; and, what was perhaps more than all, his manners were extremely odd and capricious, which, with the vulgar, generally passes for a mark of extraordinary abilities. The following incident, which is said to have been the occasion of his being first taken notice of, will serve to give an idea of his character; if, indeed, it be not a kind of travelling story, as from the nature of the prescription may be suspected.

“A Clergyman in Cambridgeshire, by excessive application in composing a learned sermon, which he was to preach before the King at Newmarket, had brought himself into such a way that he could not sleep. His friends were advised to give him opium, which he took in so large a quantity, that it threw him into a profound lethargy. Dr. Butler was sent for from Cambridge; who, upon  
seeing

seeing and hearing his case, flew into a passion, and told his wife, that she was in danger of being hanged for killing her husband, and very abruptly left the room. As he was going through the yard, in his return home, he saw several cows, and asked her to whom they belonged: she said, to her husband. Will you, says the Doctor, give me one of these cows, if I restore him to life? She replied, with all my heart. He presently ordered a cow to be killed, and the patient to be put into the warm carcase, which in a short time recovered him.\* Probably, however, it was not by such remedies as these that he acquired his reputation; but by chemical preparations, which he is said to have been the first who used in England. Other instances of his oddities are recorded; as, that it was usual for him to sit among the boys at St. Mary's church in Cambridge; and that, being sent for to king James at Newmarket, he suddenly turned back to go home, so that the messenger was forced to drive him before him. Fuller paints this humourist in the following

\* M. S. of Mr. Aubrey, in the Ashmolean Museum, quoted by Granger in his *Biographical History*.

striking



striking colours. "Knowing himself to be  
 "the Prince of Physicians, he would be ob-  
 "served accordingly. Compliments would  
 "prevail nothing with him; intreaties but  
 "little; furly threatnings would do much;  
 "and a witty jeer do any thing. He was  
 "better pleased with presents than money;  
 "loved what was pretty rather than what  
 "was costly; and preferred rarities before  
 "riches. Neatness he neglected into sloven-  
 "liness; and, accounting *cuffs* to be *manacles*,  
 "he may be said not to have made himself  
 "ready for some seven years together. He  
 "made his humoursomeness to become him;  
 "wherein some of his profession have rather  
 "aped than imitated him, who had *morositatem*  
 "*æquabilem*, and kept the tenor of the same  
 "furliness to all persons."

DR. BUTLER seems to have resided constant-  
 ly at Cambridge, though he sometimes came  
 to London upon particular business. Dr.  
 Goodall has printed a letter from lord-trea-  
 surer Burleigh to the President of the College  
 of Physicians, dated February 1592, in which,  
 at the request of Butler, he desires that he  
 might

might be allowed the liberty of practising physic in London, whenever called there occasionally, or coming up on private business. This the College granted, provided that if he came to settle in London, he would submit to the usual examinations, and pay the customary fees. We find he was consulted, along with Sir Theodore Mayerne and others, in the sickness which proved fatal to prince Henry; and it is reported that at the first sight of him, Butler, from his cadaverous look, made an unfavourable prognostic. He did not, however, as Fuller seems to represent, immediately get out of the way; but attended with the other physicians till the death of the prince. An instance either of the credulity of the times, or of the singular practice of Butler, is quoted by Wood, in his account of Francis Tresham, Esq. who, as an author relates, “being sick in the Tower, and Dr. “W. Butler, the great physician of Cambridge, coming to visit him, as his fashion “was, gave him a piece of very pure gold in “his mouth; and upon taking out of that “gold, Butler said he was poisoned.” This mode of trial must probably have been founded

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ed on superstitious notions concerning the qualities of gold; yet it is possible that a *mercurial* poison might affect the colour of gold put into the mouth.

SIR Theod. Mayerne records the following instance of Butler's extraordinary practice. A person applying to him who was tormented with a violent defluxion on his teeth, Butler told him that "a hard knot must be split by "a hard wedge;" and directed him to smoke tobacco without intermission till he had consumed an ounce of the herb. The man was accustomed to smoke: he therefore took twenty-five pipes at a sitting. This first occasioned extreme sickness; and then a flux of saliva, which, with gradual abatement of the pain, ran off to the quantity of two quarts. The disorder was entirely cured, and did not return for seventeen years.\*

DR. BUTLER was suspected of an attachment to popery, but, as Fuller thinks, falsely, since he left none of his estate to an only brother, who went abroad and turned papist.

\* Prax. Mayern. p. 66.

He died January 29th. 1617-8, in the eighty-third year of his age. He was buried in St. Mary's church, Cambridge; and the following pompous, but elegant epitaph was placed over him.

“GULIELMUS BUTLERUS Clarenfis Aulæ quondam focus, medicorum omnium quos præfens ætas vidit facile princeps, hoc sub marmore fecundum Christi adventum expectat; & monumentum hoc privata pietas statuit, quod debuit publica. Abi viator, & ad tuos reversus, narra te vidisse locum in quo salus jacet.”

He never was an author, nor left any writings behind him.

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## WILLIAM CLOWES.

OF this person, who was one of the most eminent surgeons of his time, I find no biographical memoirs but what may be extracted from his works.

His

His master in the art of surgery was George Keble, who probably practised in London, and for whom he expresses much esteem and gratitude. Clowes was for some time a navy surgeon; for he mentions serving on board one of the queen's ships called the Aid, when the emperor's daughter married Philip king of Spain, which was in 1570. He returned home soon after this; for one of his cures, wrought upon a person of Town-Malling in Kent, is dated the same year. From the relation of another case, it appears that he resided at London in 1573. Here he soon came into reputation, as may be inferred from his having been several years surgeon of St. Bartholomew's and Christ's hospitals, before he was sent for by letters from the earl of Leicester, general of the English forces in the Low Countries, to come and take upon him the care of the wounded men. This was in 1586; and he went, by command of the queen, together with William Godorus, her serjeant-surgeon. Whether it was before or after this period that he was appointed surgeon to her majesty, we are not informed. In an epistle of his prefixed to a book of



Banister's, he mentions, as a particular cause of friendship to the author, that they both served under the earl of Warwick. He also speaks in another place of having been a retainer to lord Abergavenny. The latest date in his works is 1596; at which time he seems to have been in full practice. There is a difficulty respecting the time to which he lived, that it is not easy to solve. Dr. Alexander Read, in his lectures at Surgeons' Hall delivered about the year 1631, speaks of him as then dead. "Master Clowes, who, "while he lived, was a famous member "of this company." On the other hand, Woodall, in his *Epistle of Salutations* to the Company of Surgeons, prefixed to the edition of his Works in 1638, begins his address to William Clowes Esq. Sergeant Surgeon to his Majesty, and, at present, Master of the Company. As Read's testimony concerning his death cannot be disputed, Woodall must either have copied his dedication from a former edition, or the Clowes he addresses to must have been another person, perhaps son of our author.

THE earliest publication of Clowes's is entitled *A briefe and necessary Treatise touching the Cure of the Disease now usually called Lues Venerea*. This was first printed in 1585. An improved edition was published in 1596, and it was reprinted in 1637. He begins with lamenting the frequency of this disease in England; of which he gives this proof, that in the space of five years he had cured about a thousand venereal patients in St. Bartholomew's hospital. His principal method of cure is salivation by unction, together with profuse sweating, in the utmost severity of the old discipline. He also mentions turbith mineral and mercurius diaphoreticus as efficacious medicines; and gives many miscellaneous formulæ of purging potions, diet drinks, fumigations, ointments, plasters, caustics, &c. He has a chapter on the nature of mercury, which he supposes hot and moist from its fluidity; and another on the practice of embalming. He closes with a strenuous defence of writing medical books in the vernacular tongue, adducing the example of many authors, both foreigners and English, in support of the practice. Among the latter,

he enumerates several persons whose names have already occurred in this work; and besides these, doctors Langton and Bright, and surgeon Jemeny. In the preface to this treatise, he mentions a work on the venereal disease by a Dr. Theredehere, a French physician, which had been translated into English by William Martin, surgeon in London.

THE next and most important work written by Clowes, is entitled,

*A proved Practise for all young Chirurgians, concerning Burnings with Gun-powder, and Woundes made with Gun-shot, Sword, Halbard, Pike, Launce, or such other.* To the first edition I have seen of this, a recommendatory epistle is prefixed, dated in 1588; but the edition itself was printed in 1591. It was reprinted in 1596, and 1637. This piece consists, like the former, of cases and remarks from his own practice, and observations collected from other authors. The first tract begins with cases of burns from gun-powder. His chief remedies are a liniment of common salt and onion juice, where the skin is left on,  
and

and emollient ointments to the excoriated parts. A very elegant cooling lotion used by a good gentlewoman is mentioned, which is a whey of verjuice and milk. This may deserve to stand at the head of the *Pharmacopœa Anilis*. In the treatment of gun-shot wounds, he adopts, what is commonly supposed a more modern improvement, the use of mild, mucilaginous cataplasms; and in the relation of several dangerous and complicated cases of this sort, he shews himself a skilful practitioner. Some instances of punctured nerves and tendons are mentioned, in which he disapproves of very sharp and irritating applications; though indeed, under the notion of comforting and fortifying, he uses warmer remedies than the present practice allows. A case of a fractured skull, in which he applied the trepan in two places with success, is related; and another, of both legs much shattered with a gun-shot, which, notwithstanding, he cured without amputation. In a simple fracture of the thigh he appears not to have been so judicious nor successful. The extension made was violent; the bandaging very strict; and though a very confined posi-

tion was steadily preserved, the diseased limb was left shorter than the other. He next describes the method of amputating, in which there is nothing very observable except the suppression of the hæmorrhage; which he performs with buttons of an absorbent and mildly astringent powder, applied to the vessels, and sustained by bolsters of lint and tow, and strong compression. This, he says, never failed him, and though he was acquainted with the method of drawing out and tying the arteries, used by some French surgeons, he never practised it. The powder was his own invention, and a secret; which, however, he had communicated to several of his brethren, and here makes public. After the cases, follow many recipes of oils, cerates, ointments, &c. some his own, but most of them collected from other writers. There are besides two wooden plates of surgeons' instruments.

To the edition of this work in 1591 are added, the translation of *A Treatise on the Venereal Disease* by John Almenar, a Spanish physician; and some *Aphorisms* relative to surgery.



furgery, in English and Latin. The first of these pieces, he says, was delivered to him by a friend for publication; the latter he happened to find in M. S. among some old books of furgery.

ON the whole, Clowes appears to have been a very skilful practitioner of furgery as it was in his time; and even an improver of his art. His quotations from Galen and Celsus, as well as from many later authors who wrote in Latin, shew him to have possessed a competent share of learning. His style is clear, and not incorrect. He speaks every where with great respect of his cotemporaries of the profession, both native and foreign; and very candidly acknowledges any instructions he received from them. Nor is he less severe upon empirical pretenders; many of whom, he laments, were entrusted to practise on board her majesty's ships, to the great detriment of the service. He relates a story in one of his prefaces, which may serve to shew the credulity of the times, and the petty knavery of an impostor in low life. An old woman, who had made a practice of pretending to cure all kinds of diseases by a

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charm,

charm; for the reward of a penny and a loaf of bread, was committed for forcery and witchcraft by some of the wise justices of the country, and arraigned for these crimes at the assises. The judges, not quite so credulous, told the woman she should be discharged, if she would faithfully declare in court what her charm was. She confessed that it consisted entirely in these verses, pronounced after she had received her pay.

My loaf in my lap,  
 My penny in my purse :  
 Thou art never the better,  
 Nor I am never the worse.

It would have been happy for mankind if quackery and imposture had always been as innocent as this.

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## P E T E R L O W E.

FROM this author's work, entitled *A Discourse on the whole Art of Chirurgery*, the following circumstances of his life are taken.

HE

HE was born in Scotland. He acquaints his readers that he had practised twenty-two years in France and Flanders; had been two years surgeon major to the Spanish regiment at Paris; and had then followed the king of France (Henry IV.) his master, in his wars, six years. In the title page of his book he calls himself doctor in the faculty of surgery at Paris, and ordinary surgeon to the king of France and Navarre. His book is dated from his house in Glasgow, December 20, 1612. How long he had been settled there does not appear; but he mentions, that fourteen years before, on his complaining of the ignorant persons who intruded into the practice of surgery, the king (of Scotland) granted him a privilege under his privy seal of examining all practitioners in surgery in the western parts of Scotland. He refers to a former work of his, entitled *The poor Man's Guide*; and speaks of an intended publication concerning the diseases of women.\*

HIS

\* MR. PENNANT (*Tour to the Hebrides*, p. 134.) copies the epitaph of Doctor Peter Lowe, in the cathedral church.

HIS *Discourse on Chirurgery* is written in form of a dialogue between himself and his son John. It is dedicated to James Hamilton, earl of Abercorn; and a prefatory epistle to Gilbert Primrose serjeant surgeon to the king, and James Harvey chief surgeon to the queen, is likewise prefixed to the work. The latter he elsewhere mentions to have written several learned works in surgery. This book is a general treatise of surgery, as well operative as judicial, designed for the use of beginners. It is copious, plain and methodical; full of

church-yard of Glasgow. It gives an amiable picture of his character.

Stay, passenger, and view this stone,  
 For under it lies such a one,  
 Who cured many while he lived;  
 So gracious he no man grieved:  
 Yea when his phisick's force oft' failed,  
 His pleasant purpose then prevailed;  
 For of his God he got the grace  
 To live in mirth, and die in peace;  
 Heaven has his soule, his corps this stone;  
 Sigh, passenger, and then be gone.

It is dated in 1612, the same year in which he published his *Discourse on Chirurgery*.

references

references to antient and modern authors, and, indeed, more founded on authority than observation. It contains no improvements upon the common practice of the times, consequently nothing worth notice at present. What he says of amputation may, indeed, deserve quoting, as shewing the state of the practice in securing the arteries, at that time, particularly in France, where he learned his art. In amputation on account of gangrene, he recommends the actual cautery as the safest method, on account of the tenderness of the parts, which renders ligature insecure; in other cases, however, he speaks of ligature as sufficiently effectual, and in applying it, he advises drawing out the vessels with an instrument, and then passing a needle round them, including some of the flesh. This was Parey's supposed improvement upon the ligature of the artery alone,

THIS work appears to have been in esteem; for the fourth edition of it was printed at London in 1654. To the end of it is added a translation of the Prefages of Hippocrates into English, by the same author, dedicated to the archbishop of Glasgow in 1611.

AMES



AMES gives the following title of another work of his. *Easy, certain and perfect Method to cure and prevent the Spanish Sicknefs. By Peter Lowe, Dr. in the Faculty of Chirurgerie at Paris, Chirurgeon to Henry IV. Lond. 1596. 4to.*

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## FRANCIS ANTHONY.

THE history of empiricism is closely connected with that of medicine : or rather is a part of it ; since the greatest variations in the practice of physic, as well useful as prejudicial, have originated from that source. No further apology, therefore, appears necessary for introducing among our biographical memoirs, an account of some of the most noted persons who rank under the class of empirics ; and in doing this, I hope a general disapprobation of the character, will not prevent a candid acknowledgment of what individuals may have really done for the advantage of the healing art.

FRANCIS

FRANCIS ANTHONY was born in London, April 16th, 1550. His father was an eminent goldsmith in the city, and had an employment of considerable value in the jewel-office, under queen Elizabeth. This son, after being instructed in the rudiments of learning at home, was removed to Cambridge about the year 1569. In this university he applied diligently to his studies; and after taking his degree in arts in 1574, he engaged with ardour in the pursuit of chemical knowledge. It does not appear that, according to the custom of the time, he went abroad for improvement in these studies; but it is probable that he continued at Cambridge till he was pretty far advanced in life. He then came to London, and began to publish the result of his enquiries, which first appeared in a treatise concerning a panacea extracted from gold, printed at Hamburgh in 1598. With this nostrum and other remedies he undertook the cure of various diseases; but not having applied to the College of Physicians for their license, he was summoned before the president and censors, to answer for his illegal practice. Of this affair, the following account is given by

by Dr. Goodall; which I shall insert *verbatim*, not only as interesting with regard to the subject of this article, but as a specimen of the method in which the College proceeded at that time in such cases.

“ IN the 42d (of queen Elizabeth) Francis Anthony, Master of Arts in Cambridge twenty-six years, and afterwards Dr. of Physic in our own universities, appeared before the president and censors; confessing that he had practised physic in London for six months, and had cured twenty or more of divers diseases, to whom he had given vomiting and purging physic; to others a diaphoretic medicine prepared from gold and mercury: but withall acknowledged that he had no licence to practise. He was examined in the several parts of physic, and found very weak and ignorant; wherefore he was interdicted practice. About a month after, he was committed to the counter prison and fined £5. *propter illicitam praxin*, in that he prescribed physic against the statutes and priviledges of the college; but within a fortnight or three weeks he was by a warrant from the lord chief justice

justice taken out of prison and restored to his liberty. Wherefore it was ordered, that the president and one of the censors should wait upon the chief justice with a petition from the college to request his favour in defending and preserving the college privileges; upon which Anthony submits himself to the college's censure, and begs their favour. Wherefore it was ordered that he should forthwith pay to the treasurer of the college the £5. due for his fine, which he promised to do, and was likewise interdicted practice. Not long after, he was again accused of practising physic, which he confessed, wherefore he was punished £5. for practising against the statutes of the college and his own promise; but he refusing to pay it, was committed to prison and fined £20. About eight months after, order was given by the censors for prosecuting him at law, he having confessed three years practice within the city, and his prescribing medicines lately to one that died, and to another in great danger. After this, Anthony's wife petitioned the college that they would deal mercifully with her husband, and restore him to his liberty. This petition was rejected, it being

now out of the college's power to fet him at liberty, the suit depending being commenced in the queen's name as well as the college's. Wherefore about two months after, Mrs. Anthony delivered a second petition to the college, with so great importunity and tears, that partly upon that account, and partly upon the account of Anthony's poverty, &c. they granted the following warrant to the keeper of the prison."

(THIS warrant specifies that they are willing to discharge their part of Anthony's debt, so that it be no-wise prejudicial to her majesty's part, which was £30.)

"Two years after Anthony's release from prison, Dr. Taylor with two physicians more of the college and some other persons complained against him for prescribing physic to several patients, amongst which one died upon the use of his remedies; another lost all his teeth; a third fell into such violent vomitings and looseness, that the day after he died and charged his death upon Anthony, who had said that when all other remedies failed



failed him, he used this as his last and extreme one, which in the nature of it would either kill or cure. The president and censors gave order for his prosecution according to law. After which order, several fresh complaints were brought against him; as his prescribing his *Aurum potabile* to a reverend divine, who upon his death-bed complained that this medicine had killed him, he falling upon the use of it into an incurable inflammation of the throat, &c.”

*Goodall's Hist. Coll. Phys.* p. 349, & seq.

WITH respect to our empiric's favourite nostrum, his potable gold, he published, in the year 1610, a defence of it, in Latin, by no means devoid of learning and art, although, in the present improved state of chemistry and medicine, it would be thought destitute of solidity. The work is entitled *Medicinæ Chymicæ & veri Potabilis Auri Assertio*. It is methodically divided into several chapters, in which he attempts to establish the possibility of making a potable gold, the great medicinal powers of the mineral kingdom, the superior virtues of gold, and the

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claim

claim a preparation of that metal may have to be entitled an universal medicine. Like many other empirics, he affects a wonderful fairness and openness in disclosing the nature of his medicine, while he conceals the most essential circumstance of its preparation. By this artifice, the author of his life in the *Biographia Britannica* has been so much imposed upon, that he makes this absurd assertion. "Herein the author very fairly and accurately relates the whole process of his AURUM POTABILE, *concealing only the method by which it is dissolved.*" This writer, however, at the end of the article inserts Dr. Anthony's entire process, as faithfully transcribed from a M. S. which he left behind him. In it the chemical reader will find the most extraordinary blunders and falsities ever offered to the public. A saturated solution of calx of tin in distilled vinegar is to be made, which, however, is to be *distilled*; and the liquor drawn over, (though, as every chemist knows, it would be a mere phlegm) is the menstruum. Then gold filings and salt are to be repeatedly calcined and ground together, when, upon elixation with water, all the gold will be found

found converted into a white calx; a phenomenon altogether new in chemistry! Upon this calx the menstruum is now to be poured; and after digestion during nine days, the solution is to be decanted, and evaporated to the consistence of honey. From this extract, reduced to powder, a tincture is to be drawn, with rectified spirit, which, again inspissated, gives an extract, an ounce of which, put into a quart of Canary wine, is the *Aurum potable*. Though this process was probably not the real one; yet we find that many of the most celebrated recipes for potable gold were equally incapable of affording a single grain of that metal in solution.

DR. ANTHONY'S book was not unnoticed by the regulars of the faculty. An answer was published the next year by Dr. Matthew Gwinne, of the college, entitled *Aurum non Aurum, sive Adversaria in assertorem Chymicæ, sed veræ Medicinæ desertorem, Fran. Anthonium*. Other attacks were likewise made upon the potable gold; which induced the inventor to publish in 1616, an English Apology in defence of his medicine. This, besides a repe-

tition of the matter in the Latin treatise, has some additions; particularly several popular arguments in favour of the idea of an universal medicine, and a large collection of attested cures. Few empirical medicines have been more respectably supported by testimonials than this; and notwithstanding the well-known fallacy of these proofs, it appears pretty evident, that Anthony's pretended preparations of gold were really powerful chemical remedies. They were probably mercurial or antimonial; for, in describing their effects, he mentions their operating at times as sudorific, emetic, diuretic and cathartic. Opiates were probably joined, as they were remarkably efficacious in allaying pain and procuring sleep. They were exhibited under three forms, which he calls tincture of gold, potable gold, and quintessence of gold. The first, diluted in sixteen times its quantity of wine, made the second. The third was the dry residuum of the tincture distilled.

IN an Appendix annexed to this tract, the author makes some just strictures on a passage of Dr. Gwinne's book against him, in which  
the

the king is requested to suppress the medicine, lest the business of the physician, surgeon, and apothecary should be entirely ruined. This would seem not only to shew that the opposition proceeded from selfish and unworthy motives, but that the efficacy of the medicine was really extraordinary. It appears too, that Dr. Gwinne included all chemical medicines in his censure.

Two of the cases published by Anthony, which seemed to affect the reputation of Dr. Cotta of Northampton, brought on a very severe attack from that physician, who, however, delayed the publication till the year 1623. But notwithstanding this, and the former opposition he met with from the college and individuals of the faculty, Dr. Anthony found means to engage the patronage of several persons of rank, and the good opinion of the public at large; to which the excellence of his moral character, and his learning and easy address, did not a little contribute. It is certain, that later empirics, with more absurd pretensions, and much less merit to support them, have been alike victorious



over good sense and modesty; so that we need not be surprised at the triumph Dr. Anthony obtained, in seeing his reputation, practice, and emoluments arrive at a great height. He is said to have been liberal in his charity to the poor, and to have lived hospitably at his house in Bartholomew's close, where he died, aged 74, on May 26, 1623. He left two sons, both physicians; one of whom supported himself handsomely by the sale of his father's nostrum, the other settled and practised with reputation in the town of Bedford.

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## RICHARD BANISTER.

**A**LL the information I can find concerning this person is derived from his works. He says he was educated under his near kinsman John Banister, before mentioned. That, however, when he came to consider the large field of surgery and medicine, he chose to confine himself to certain particular branches;

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as “the help of hearing by the instrument,  
 “the cure of the hare-lip and the wry neck,  
 “and diseases of the eyes.” In order to im-  
 prove his skill in these operations, he fre-  
 quented some eminent persons of that time in  
 these several departments; as “Henry Black-  
 borne, Robert Hall of Worcester, Master  
 “Velder of Fennie Stanton, Master Surflet of  
 “Lynne, Master Barnabie of Peterborough.”  
 With these, he says, he saw much practice,  
 but little theory; in order to supply which  
 defect, he betook himself to the study of the  
 best authors, as Rhazes, Mesue, Fernelius,  
 Vesalius, &c. Thus accomplished, he fixed  
 himself at Stamford in Lincolnshire, making  
 excursions, however, to the large towns round  
 about. The great reputation he acquired may  
 be inferred from the numerous operations for  
 the cataract which his work shews him to have  
 performed, and from his being sent for even  
 to London, which city he at length visited for  
 many years in spring and autumn. He men-  
 tions having cured twenty-four blind persons  
 at Norwich, of which he obtained a certificate  
 from the mayor and aldermen. At the time  
 he writes this account, the year 1621 or 2,

he seems to have been grown old, for he declares, that knowing it is not long to the period of his days, he means for the future to rest at home. We know not how much longer he survived.

With respect to the works of this person, there seems to have been some mistake among those who have mentioned them. The title of that in my possession runs thus. *A Treatise of 113 Diseases of the Eyes and Eye-lids; the second Time published, with some profitable Additions of certaine Principles and Experiments by Richard Banister, Oculist and Practitioner in Physick.* Of this, the treatise on the 113 diseases is a translation from the French of Jacques Guillemeau, made by one A. H. and at its first publication dedicated to the elder Banister. Being out of print, it was now republished by Richard Banister, with a work of his own prefixed, entitled *Banister's Breviary*. Of this we shall give some account. It is dedicated to Francis earl of Rutland, and a copy of recommendatory Latin verses by Dr. Prujean is prefixed. He begins with a set of aphorisms on the nature of vision, the structure  
of

of the eye, and its diseases, which are defective in method, and replete with the false philosophy of the times. He then mentions many errors in the common and empirical treatment of diseases of the eyes, and gives his opinion concerning the proper remedies to be used. In this part are many useful observations on the abuse of sharp applications. Then follow several remarks on cataracts, particularly those of the imperfect kind, as they were usually reckoned; such as the milky, bloody, soft, and adherent. These remarks are evidently the result of much experience, and shew him to have been a good operator, and a careful observer. He corrects the common notion that cataracts will always ripen, or become of a proper consistence for depression, by age; and asserts that in the soft kind, where the operation at first appears unsuccessful, a little time will frequently clear the eye, and produce the desired effect. He shews that what had been termed a black cataract, was really a gutta serena; and adds some useful remarks upon this disease. Some poetry is interspersed in his work, particularly some curious pieces to expose the pretended cure of bad eyes by well-

well-water; such as that of Malverne, Wellingborough, Stratford-le-Bow, Shirburn and Tunbridge. He censures a practice which then prevailed, of drinking a large draught of ale the first thing in a morning for the benefit of the eyes; and concludes with a brief account of the qualities of the common remedies for the eyes, as hot, dry, cold, moist, &c. in the language of the old herbalists.

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## MATTHEW GWINNE

WAS born in London, where his father resided, who was descended from an antient family in Wales. In 1574 he was elected a scholar of St. John's college in Oxford; of which he afterwards became perpetual fellow. In 1582 he was made regent master, agreeably to the custom of the university at that time, and was appointed to read lectures upon music. After taking his degrees in arts, he entered upon the physic line, and practised as a physician in and about Oxford. In 1588 he was chosen junior proctor; and in September



tember 1592, was the first replier in a disputation held at Oxford for the entertainment of queen Elizabeth. The following year he was created doctor of physic; and in 1595, by leave of the college, he attended Sir Henry Unton, embassador from queen Elizabeth to the French court, in quality of his physician.

ON the foundation of Gresham college, he was chosen its first physic professor, being one of the two nominated by the university of Oxford, and having a further recommendation from lord chancellor Egerton. This happened about the beginning of March 1596. At the commencement of the lectures in Michaelmas term 1598, he began with an oration in praise of the founder, and the institution, which, with another delivered in Hilary term following on the same subjects, was afterwards printed. In June 1604, Dr. Gwinne was admitted a candidate of the College of Physicians; and in the beginning of the year 1605, was appointed physician to the Tower. In the month of August, the same year, king James with his queen and the whole

whole court visited Oxford, and were entertained three days with academical exercises of all kinds. Among the rest the two following medical questions were proposed for disputation.

AN mores nutricum a puerulis cum lacte imbibantur? *Negatur.*

AN frequens suffitus nicotianæ exoticæ sit fanis salutaris? *Negatur.*

THE respondent was Sir William Paddie the king's physician; and the opponents Dr. Gwinne and others.

It is well known how inveterate an enemy king James was to tobacco; our physician was therefore politic enough to express his sentiments fully upon that subject after the trial of skill was over.

In the evening of the same day, a Latin comedy, called *Vertumnus, sive Annus recurrens*, written by Dr. Gwinne, was acted at Magdalen college. The following account of  
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of this piece is given in *Rex Platonicus*.

“ Sed a coena ad scenam properandum est,  
 “ qua loco sueto principibus a Johannenſibus  
 “ repræſentatur *Annus recurrens*, fabula focco  
 “ comico, ſed pede tragico, tragicis enim  
 “ ſenariis ad novitatem ſcripta, ſcena in for-  
 “ mam Zodiaci exactiſſime efficta, & ſole  
 “ omnia dodecatamorii ſigna ſplendido arti-  
 “ ficio pertranſeunte. Cujus decurſu quatuor  
 “ anni tempeſtates, quatuor ætatis humanæ  
 “ progreſſus, quatuor humorum corporis va-  
 “ rietates, & ſi quæ uſpiam ſint varietates aliæ,  
 “ aut fortunarum, aut ingeniorum, aut am-  
 “ orum, aut ludorum, omnes delectabili har-  
 “ monia in theatrum productæ, & micro-  
 “ coſmo repræſentatæ, adoleſcente primum  
 “ acâdemico, aliarum deinde omnium condi-  
 “ tionum varietatem experiente. Sed quid  
 “ ego iſta, quum ipſa jam e prælo emerſerit  
 “ feſtiviffima comœdia? Incœpta eſt ſole  
 “ arietem ingrediente, finita quum piſces ſolis  
 “ igne coquerentur. Digna quidem quæ toto  
 “ vertente anno duraret; ſed ideo Zodiacum  
 “ ſuum feſtinantius ſol viſus eſt tranſiiſſe, ut  
 “ principibus multo iſtius diei tædio laſſis  
 “ quieſcendi otium concederetur.”

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IN December the same year, he was admitted a fellow of the College of Physicians; and in September 1607, he quitted his professorship in Gresham college, probably upon marriage. After this, he continued to practise physic in London with great reputation both in the city and at court. In 1620 he was appointed one of the commissioners for garbbling tobacco; for his majesty, full of suspicions of this weed, and attentive to the health of his subjects, caused directions to be drawn up for picking and sorting this commodity, in which one of the faculty was, among persons of other professions, to be concerned. He died, according to Wood, in the year 1627. Professor Ward, upon the authority of his name being in the *London Pharmacopœa*, printed in 1639, asserts this to be a mistake. But a learned physician of my acquaintance has refuted this objection, by remarking, that the *Pharmacopœa* of 1618 was several times reprinted by the booksellers without a revival, or changing the names of the college members. He left behind him one son.

THE following works of his, published in his life time, are still extant.

*Epicedium in obitum illustrissimi herois, Henrici comitis Derbienfis.* Oxon. 1593, 4to.

*Nero, Tragædia nova.* Lond. 1603. Wood says this is somewhere recommended by Justus Lipsius.

*Orationes duæ, Londini habitæ in ædibus Greshamiis, A. D. 1598.* Lond. 1605. These are reprinted, together with *Oratio in laudem Musices*, never before published, in the Appendix of Ward's Lives of Gresham Professors.

*Vertumnus, sive Annus recurrens.* Lond. 1607.

*Aurum non Aurum, &c.* This work has been already mentioned in the account of Dr. Anthony, against whom it was written.

*Verses in English, French, and Italian.*

*A Book of Travels.*

*Letters*



*Letters concerning Chymical and Magical Secrets.*

DR. GWINNE, in the preface to his two Orations, mentions likewise that he had by him some discourses, entitled *Elucubrationes Philiatricæ*; but it does not appear that they were ever printed.

THE learned professor Ward, from whose account this article is extracted, gives the following elegant summary of our author's literary character. "He was a man of quick parts, a lively fancy, and poetic genius, had read much, was well versed in all sorts of polite literature, accurately skilled in the modern languages, and much valued for his knowledge and success in the practice of physic. But his Latin stile was formed upon a wrong taste, which led him from the natural and beautiful simplicity of the antients, into points of wit, affected jingle, and scraps of sentences detached from old authors; a custom which at that time began too much to prevail both here and abroad. And he seems to have contracted this humour gradually

“dually, as it grew more in vogue; for his  
 “*Oratio in Laudem Musicæ* is not so deeply  
 “tinged with it, as his *Orationes duæ* spoken  
 “many years afterwards in Gresham college.”  
 These are indeed perfect curiosities in their  
 kind, and worth perusing, as complete speci-  
 mens of the *interlarded style*.

DR. ALEXANDER READ, in the beginning of  
 his chirurgical lectures delivered in Surgeon’s  
 hall, mentions a “Master Doctor Gwyn of  
 “famous memory, who has delivered many  
 “learned discourses on sundry points in the  
 “art of chirurgery out of this seat.” Whe-  
 ther this person was the same with the subject  
 of the present article, I cannot determine;  
 but the period of time will not be unsuitable  
 to that supposition, since Read first lectured  
 in 1631, and Gwyn was not his immediate  
 predecessor.

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## PHILEMON HOLLAND

WAS descended from an antient Lancashire  
 family of that name; and the son of Mr.

Q John

John Holland, a divine, who flying from the persecution in queen Mary's time, afterwards returned to England, and was pastor of Much-Dunmow in Essex. Philemon was born at Chelmsford in Essex, about the year 1551; and after receiving the rudiments of learning at the grammar school of that place, was sent to Trinity college, Cambridge, where he was for some time scholar to Dr. Whitgift, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury. After going through the usual course of academical advancement, he left the university, fellow of his college, and M. A.; and was likewise M. A. of Brazen-nose college, Oxford.

He settled in the city of Coventry, where he was made head master of the free school; and in this laborious station he not only attended assiduously to the duties of his office, but served the interests of learning, by undertaking those numerous translations which gave him the epithet of *translator general of the age*. As if these occupations had been insufficient for the employment of his time, he turned his studies to physic, and practised

in that profession with considerable reputation in his neighbourhood; and at length, pretty late in life, became a doctor of physic in the university of Cambridge.

HE brought up a family of ten children with credit; was a great benefactor to the poor; and was so peaceable and inoffensive in his temper, that he never was engaged in a law-suit either as plaintiff or defendant, though he met with some unjust treatment. As a reward of his regularity and temperance, he reached his eighty-fourth year in full possession of his intellects, and with his eye-sight so good, notwithstanding the great use he had made of it, that he never had occasion to wear spectacles. He died of old age in his eighty-fifth year, on February 9, 1636.

HE translated into English, *Livy*, *Pliny's Natural History*, *Plutarch's Morals*, *Suetonius*, *Ammianus Marcellinus*, *Xenophon's Cyropædia*, and *Camden's Britannia*; and into Latin, the geographical part of *Speed's Theatre of Great Britain*, and a French *Pharmacopœia of Brice*

*Bauderon.* \* To the *Britannia* he made several useful additions. His translations, though devoid of elegance, are accounted faithful and accurate; and certainly afford a memorable proof, how much a single man may perform, if his whole time be employed to advantage. From the date of his *Cyropædia* it appears, that he continued to translate till his eightieth year. An epigram is recorded, which he made upon writing a large folio with a single pen.

With one sole pen I writ this book,  
 Made of a grey goose quill;  
 A pen it was when it I took,  
 And a pen I leave it still.

Dr. Fuller observes, that “ he must have  
 “ leaned very lightly on the neb thereof,  
 “ though weightily enough in another sense.”  
 Some other voluminous writers are said to have had the same whim, as John Bunyan and Matthew Henry.

\* PRINTED 1639. Lond. fol. with a dedication prefixed to the College of Physicians from Henry Holland the publisher, son of Philemon.

A QUIB-



A QUIBBLING epigram upon his translation of *Suetonius* has been often retailed in jest books.

Philemon with translations so does fill us,  
He will not let *Suetonius* be *Tranquillus*.

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## THEODORE GOULSTON,

SON of William Goulston, rector of Wymondeham in Leicestershire, was born in Northamptonshire, and became probationer fellow of Merton college, Oxford, in 1596. After applying himself to the study of physic in this university, he practised for a time with considerable reputation at Wymondeham and its neighbourhood. At length, after taking his doctor's degree in 1610, he removed to London, and became a fellow of the College of Physicians, and afterwards censor. He resided in the parish of St. Martin's near Ludgate, and was in great esteem, as well for classical learning and

Q 3      theology

theology, as for the practice of his profession. He died in the year 1632; and by an article in his will testified such a regard to the interests of medicine, as entitles him to grateful commemoration. This was a bequest of £200, to purchase a rent charge for the maintenance of an annual pathological lecture within the College of Physicians. This was to be read sometime between Michaelmas and Easter, by one of the four youngest doctors of the college. A dead body was, if possible, to be procured, and two or more diseases treated of, upon the forenoons and afternoons of three successive days. If institutions of this nature, have, by the more improved and regular state of medical education; become less necessary, we are not the less obliged to those who founded them at a time when they were more wanted.\*

DR. GOULSTON published the following works.

\* THE public, however, has very lately been indebted to this institution, for some ingenious pathological essays, delivered as *Gulstonian Lectures*, by Dr. Musgrave.

*Versio*

*Versio Latina, & Paraphrasis in Aristotelis Rhetoricam.* Lond. 1619, &c.

*Aristotelis de Poetica Liber, Latine conversus, & Analytica Methodo illustratus.* Lond. 1623.

AFTER his death, his intimate friend Thomas Gataker, B. D. published his

*Versio, variae Lectiones, & Annotationes Criticae in Opuscula varia Galeni.* Lond. 1640.

## EDWARD JORDEN

WAS born in the year 1569, at High Halden in Kent, and probably educated at Hart-hall, Oxford. After completing his studies in his own country, he travelled abroad, visiting several foreign universities, and taking his degree of doctor in that of Padua. We are told of an adventure which he met with in his travels, that had like to have proved fatal to him. Being in company with some zealous Jesuits, he undertook the

Q 4 defence

defence of the protestant religion, with so much ardour and success, that they resolved effectually to silence him, by breaking into his chamber in the night and murdering him. He was, however, apprized of the design by one of his countrymen, who happened to be among his opponents, and prevented its execution by a timely escape. On his return, he practised for a time in London, where he became a member of the College of Physicians, and was in great reputation for learning and abilities. An instance of his good sense, and of the estimation in which he was held, appears in the following circumstance. One Ann Gunter appeared to have a disorder attended with symptoms so strange and singular, that they were imputed to witchcraft. King James hearing of the matter, sent for her to London, and put her under the care of Dr. Jorden, who soon found reason to suspect her of being an impostor. Being confirmed in his opinion by certain experiments, he acquainted the king with it; and by proper management, his majesty brought the woman to confess that she had counterfeited her extraordinary fits at the instigation of her father, with

with a design of fixing the odium of witchcraft upon a female neighbour who had quarrelled with him.

DR. JORDEN removed after some time from London to Bath, where he spent all the latter part of his life, universally respected as well in his private character as his medical capacity. His marriage, which from the circumstances probably took place after his removal to Bath, was brought about in a singular manner. He happened, upon a journey, to be benighted upon Salisbury plain; when, meeting with a shepherd, and enquiring after the nearest place of entertainment, he was directed to the house of Mr. Jordan, a hospitable gentleman of good estate in that neighbourhood. The doctor considering the<sup>d</sup> similarity of their names as a good omen, rode to the place, where he was kindly received, and proved so agreeable to his host, that he gave him his daughter with a considerable fortune.

Our physician had a natural propensity to the studies of chemistry and mineralogy; and as these were the foundation of the fame he acquired

acquired by his *Treatise on Bathes and Mineral Waters*, so they were the occasion of much prejudice to his fortune, by engaging him in a project of manufacturing alum. Where his works were situated we are not told; but a grant he had obtained from king James of the profit of them, was revoked at the importunity of a courtier in that monopolizing age; and though he made application for redress, he could not obtain it, notwithstanding the king appeared particularly sensible of the hardship of his case. That this disappointment was of a nature not easily to be forgot, may be concluded from a passage in his book, where, his subject leading him to treat of alum springs, he thus gives vent to his feelings. "Now I  
 " come to allum (Indignum vox ipsa jubet  
 " renovare dolorem) the greatest debtor I  
 " have, and I the best benefactor to it, as shall  
 " appear when I think fit to publish the arti-  
 " fice thereof."

THE doctor had several children, four of whom arrived to years of maturity, two sons and two daughters. The studious and sedentary life which he led, aggravating the diseases he



he was constitutionally subject to, the gout and stone, he died in his sixty-third year, on January 7, 1632, and was buried in the church of St. Peter and Paul in Bath.\*

DR. JORDEN published,

*A brief Discourse of a Disease called the Suffocation of the Mother, &c.* Lond. 1603. 4to.

*A Discourse of Natural Baths and Mineral Waters.* Lond. 1631. 4to. This soon went through a second edition, and was afterwards reprinted in 1669, in 8vo. by Dr. Guidott, and again in 1673. It is a work of considerable learning and ingenuity, written in a clear style and judicious method. Much of it is extracted from other authors. Of what is more peculiarly his own we shall give some account.

IN order to solve the difficult problem of the origin of springs and fountains, he has the following singular hypothesis. Comparing the ocean with its shores, to a cup brim-full

\* The above memoirs are collected from Dr. Guidott.

of water, he supposes, that as in the latter the liquor will stand higher in the centre, than where it is in contact with the sides, so in the former, the level of the sea may be proportionally higher at a distance from land than on the shore. From this position, he imagines the rise of sea water through the pores of the earth, sweetened in its passage, and bursting out in the higher grounds in form of springs, may be accounted for on the principle of the syphon, or the tendency of water to rise to its former level. Inconsistent as this explanation may be with the now established laws of natural philosophy, it will not be thought destitute of ingenuity; and the same character will apply to his hypothesis of the cause of the heat in thermal waters. After refuting by proper arguments the usual method of explaining this problem, he pursues the following train of reasoning. Generation, he asserts, is not confined to the animal and vegetable kingdoms, but is extended to the mineral; in which, as in the others, it proceeds from a seminary spirit, acting by a sort of fermentation. He adduces several instances to prove that this generation of minerals

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is constantly going on in the bowels of the earth, and that it is attended with heat; and from this heat and generative production, he supposes both the warmth and the impregnation of the thermal mineral waters to proceed, the springs of which may be imagined to arise from beds of minerals in their fermentative state. He labours to prove that this cause would be gradual and durable in its action, and attempts to answer several objections to his hypothesis that would occur.

THE practical part of his treatise relates principally to the use of the Bath waters. These he asserts to be impregnated with bitumen and sulphur rendered miscible by nitre. Their internal use had not become common in his time; and he says he cannot commend it as much as it deserves, on account of their adulteration in the baths wherein they are received. When they are taken inwardly, however, he recommends them to be drank hot as they are pumped. He denies that they have any purgative virtue, and observing that it was the custom of the guides to give them with that intention mixed with salt, he imputes

imputes their effect to the salt alone. It appears from what he says, that they were at that time used internally in a dietetic way, in making beer, broths, &c. What he says of their external application is much the same with the present practice, except that he recommends bathing most in the hot months, as May, June, July and August. The time of continuing in the bath which he prescribes, is an hour or less in a hot bath, and two hours in a temperate one.\*

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## JOHN WOODALL.

FROM the works of this excellent surgeon, the following circumstances of his life are collected.

HE was born about the year 1569. In 1589 he went over to France, as a military surgeon in the troops sent by queen Elizabeth to the

\* See the account of Jones's *Bathes of Bathe's Ayde*.

assistance

assistance of Henry IV. under lord Willoughby. He seems not to have returned at the expiration of his service; for we find him, after this period, travelling through France, Germany, and Poland, in which countries, he says, for want of better and more beneficial employment, he was forced for his maintenance to practise in the cure of the plague. He lived some time at Stade in Germany, among the English merchants residing there; and was employed by some embassadors sent to that place by Elizabeth, as their interpreter in the German language. On his return to England, after the death of the queen, he settled in London, and made use of his former experience in a close attendance on the sick, during the great plague which raged in the first year of king James's reign. He became a member of the Surgeon's Company, and about the year 1612 was elected surgeon to St. Bartholomew's hospital, and likewise surgeon-general to the East India Company. This latter office was a post of great trust and consequence, since he had the charge of appointing surgeons and mates to all the Company's ships, and furnishing their chests with medicines.

cines and every other necessary article. It was on this occasion that he wrote his *Surgeon's Mate*; but in what year the first edition of that work appeared, I have not been able to discover. It cannot be doubted, from many circumstances, that he was for some considerable time a sea-surgeon, and made one or more voyages to the East Indies in that capacity; but at what period of his life this happened, cannot from his works be ascertained. As he mentions but eight years for the term of his travels by land, a period of three or four years will be left to complete the time between his first going to France, and his return to England after the death of queen Elizabeth: and this might probably have been spent in the naval service. We are informed that he was likewise sent into Poland, on some business of importance to the state, in king James's reign.

IN 1626, when the naval forces of the kingdom were augmented, and warlike preparations were carried on with vigour, the charge of fitting out the chirurgical part of his majesty's service was committed to the Corporation



Corporation of furgeons, and by them to Woodall. The king, Charles I. on this occasion augmented the pay of the navy furgeons, and gave a bounty, proportioned to the rates of the ships, towards furnishing the medicine chests. Woodall at this time wrote his short treatise entitled *Viaticum*, being a kind of Appendix to his former work for the instruction of the younger furgeons. It was written in 1626, and printed first in 1628. From this period we learn scarcely any thing concerning him, except that he was for a time master of the Surgeon's Company, and that he reached his sixty-ninth year in 1638, when he collected all his works into one volume, printed in 1639, which, besides his *Surgeon's Mate* and *Viaticum*, contained a *Treatise on the Plague*, and another on *Gangrene and Sphacelus*. At this period he complains that his sight was weakened, and his faculties much impaired, so that he was incapable of writing all that he had intended. How much longer he survived I cannot discover.

WOODALL dedicates his works to the king,  
the governor and committee of the East India  
R Company,

Company, and the master and governors of the Surgeon's Company. In his epistle to the latter, he asserts, that for forty years past, no English surgeon but himself had published any book of the true practice of surgery, for the benefit of young practitioners. In the preface he gives a kind of short history of medicine, which shews him to have been a man of reading; and he adds a sensible and modest defence of surgeons prescribing diet and medicines to their patients in certain cases, urging, that as they are liable to be called upon to serve their country, in situations where the whole medical treatment must be entrusted to them, it is unreasonable to deny them, in private practice, the exercise of such knowledge as they are obliged to possess.

THE first of his pieces, *The Surgeon's Mate*; is here inserted in the third edition. Its general plan is, first, an enumeration of all the instruments, utensils, and medicines of a surgeon's chest; next, a brief description of their uses and qualities; and then certain separate chapters upon some of the most important parts of military and naval practice.

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The design was undoubtedly meritorious, and is executed, upon the whole, in an useful manner; but since the matter is chiefly accommodated to mere novices in the art, I shall only take notice of some of the most remarkable passages.

UNDER the head of instruments he mentions one of his own invention, called *Spatula Mundani*,\* contrived for the removal of hardened fæces, collected in the rectum; and he has several good observations on the frequency and danger of this accident. He also, after a whimsical riddling introduction, describes an instrument for conveying the smoke of tobacco, or other substances, up the intestines; the idea of which, as it would seem, was likewise his own. In treating on gun-shot wounds, he falls into the bad practice of the time, in recommending sharp stimulant applications to obviate the supposed tendency to gangrene; and, what is extraordinary, he does not once take notice of *Clowes's* express treatise on this subject. Indeed, he is by no means so liberal

\* Quasi, *mundans anum*, or *mundator ani*.

of compliment to his countrymen and contemporaries, as that author, very seldom even mentioning their names. In opening abscesses, he greatly prefers caustics to the knife; and disapproves the exorbitant use of hard tents and corrosive applications in the cure of ulcers. He does not allow the use of circular rollers in fractures, the renewing of which would disturb the limb; but in their stead directs splints and tape. He speaks much against tight bandage, strongly inculcates the idea that the cure of fractures is entirely the work of nature, and indeed treats this subject so sensibly, that we may readily believe his assertion, that what he says concerning it is derived from his own experience, not from the authority of others. In amputation he recommends tying the large vessels, especially those of the thigh, if it can be done; but he seems to think that the surgeon will often be foiled in his attempts. In this case, as well as for the smaller vessels, he directs buttons of astringent and caustic powders to be applied.

THE most valuable piece in this work seems to be his tract on the Scurvy, which, whether  
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for accuracy in describing the disease, or judiciousness in the method of cure, has perhaps scarcely been since excelled. He defines the scurvy to be a disease of the spleen; and asserts its principal cause to be the long use of salt provision, together with the want of cleanliness, and proper change of apparel. He describes its symptoms concisely, but with much precision; and then proceeds to the practical part, in which he is very full and particular. The remedy to which he gives the first place is the juice of lemons, the extraordinary efficacy of which he several times insists upon. In want of this, he recommends various other acid vegetable juices and fruits; and where none of these can be had, oil of vitriol. A variety of judicious remarks and directions concerning medicines, diet, and external applications, occur in this treatise; of which I shall only say further, that they appear evidently to be the result of experience and careful observation, and are in great part confirmed by modern practice.\*

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\* THE very ingenious Dr. Macbride, in his *Experimental Essays*, has particularly commended this treatise

HE has a chapter on the virtues of Paracelsus's *Laudanum Opiatum*, which he peculiarly recommends in the dysentery, and prefers to every other preparation of the kind. The work is concluded with some chapters on salt, sulphur, and mercury, and their virtues, in prose and verse, and an explanation of chemical characters and terms. Though there is nothing in these but what he has extracted from other authors, it shews that he had made chemistry an object of his attention, probably during his residence abroad; as, indeed, he in part asserts.

HIS next work, entitled *Viaticum, being the path-way to the surgeon's chest*, is written with the same general design of instructing young practitioners, but chiefly with a reference to the treatment of gun-shot wounds. Under this head there is nothing, however, materially different from what is given in his *Surgeon's Mate*. There is added a description of the

of Woodall's, and quoted a considerable part of it. He likewise takes notice of his merits in some other respects, and expresses his surprize that so few modern writers have mentioned him.

trefine,



trephine, an instrument invented by our author, and which has now almost entirely taken place of the trepan. He contrived the variation from this last instrument, not only in the manner of working, but in the conical shape of the saw, which prevents its suddenly bearing upon the dura mater when the bone is cut through.

HIS *Treatise on the Plague* is scarcely worthy of the great experience he boasts to have had in this disease. It consists chiefly of numerous antidotes and remedies copied out of other writers, and contains little of his own, except the recommendation of a mineral diaphoretic nostrum of his, called *Aurum Vitæ*, the preparation of which he keeps secret. Attestations in its favour, from the parish officers of *St. Margaret's, Westminster*, and the mayor and justices of *Northampton*, dated in 1638, are annexed.

HIS last piece, *A Treatise on Gangrene and Sphacelus*, deserves more particular consideration, on account of an important innovation in practice which it is designed to inculcate.

This is, amputation in the mortified, instead of the sound part; a practice not new indeed, but at that time universally disused. His success in a case which would admit of no other kind of operation, first led him to the idea of it; and he pursued it to such a length, that he affirms he had taken off more than a hundred limbs in the mortified part, and in not one instance did the patient die, or the mortification spread farther. As the intention in this method could only be to relieve nature from the burthen of a putrid mass, and leave the immediate separation of the sound and mortified parts to her own efforts, it may be considered as an important advance to that which is at present esteemed the most judicious practice; namely, deferring amputation altogether in mortifications, till the gangrenous disposition in the habit is corrected, and a line of separation is already formed between the living and dead fibres. Several useful general remarks on amputation occur in this tract. Among the rest, there is the first hint in favour of amputating as low as the ankle in diseases of the foot; for upon observing that persons who had undergone  
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the punishment of having their feet cut off in the East Indies, were able to walk very well after their stumps were healed, by putting them into cases of bamboo, he expresses a wish that the practice might be imitated by surgeons, though he acknowledges he himself should not venture upon such an innovation.

It is worth mentioning, that he asserts that for twenty-four years, in which he has been surgeon to St. Bartholomew's hospital, not one person had died of a hæmorrhage from amputation; that four-fifths of these patients went alive and well out of the hospital; and that for the fifty years in which he has known the art of surgery, he never saw in England or elsewhere, the cruel antient practice of cauterizing the sensible and living parts at the end of a stump.

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## THEODORE TURQUET DE MAYERNE.

**A**LTHOUGH this eminent physician was born and educated abroad, yet the distinguished place he for many years occupied  
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among the faculty in this country, and the important changes which he principally contributed to introduce in our medical practice, will, I doubt not, sufficiently evince the propriety of including him among the subjects of these biographical memoirs.

HIS father, Lewis de Mayerne, was a French protestant, and a celebrated writer of history. He fled, on account of his religion, from Lyons to Geneva, in the year 1572; and in that city his son Theodore was born on September 18, 1573. After being instructed in the rudiments of literature at his native place, he was sent to the university of Heidleberg, where he remained some years; but upon attaching himself to the profession of physick, he removed to Montpellier, and there pursuing his medical studies, he took the degrees of batchelor and doctor of physick in 1596 and 1597. Having thus completed his education, he went to Paris, where he gave lectures in anatomy to the young surgeons, and in pharmacy to the apothecaries. The latter of these subjects led him to treat on chemistry, to the practice of which he had paid peculiar attention; and as in his medical  
practice

practice he made considerable use of chemical remedies, he was soon looked upon as one of the most strenuous supporters of this innovation, as it was then termed. While this brought him into favour with Riverius, first physician to king Henry IV. who by his recommendation procured him to be appointed one of his majesty's physicians in ordinary; it likewise drew on him the enmity of the faculty at Paris, who manifested their attachment to Galen, by an indiscriminate abuse of all who attempted to introduce modes of practice not mentioned in his works. Quercetanus was joined with Mayerne as the object of their attack; and in 1603, one of the body wrote a book against these heterodox brethren, entitled *Apologia pro Medicina Hippocratis & Galeni, contra Mayernium & Quercetanium*. To this Mayerne published an apologetical answer; and the Galenists not only replied, but proceeded to thunder an academical interdiction against the two delinquents. The favour of the king, however, rendered this a *brutum fulmen* with respect to Mayerne; for his majesty having, in 1600, appointed our physician to attend the duke de Rohan in his embassies

embassies to the courts of Germany and Italy, he discharged his office with so much reputation, that he rose high in the king's esteem, and was promised great advantages, provided he would embrace the Roman catholic religion. This, however, notwithstanding the persuasions of the Cardinal du Perron and other ecclesiastics, he refused to do: the king, nevertheless, still would have appointed him his first physician, had not the Jesuits influenced queen Mary de Medicis to interpose and prevent it—a strong instance of their suspicious and meddling disposition. Mayerne continued in the office of physician in ordinary to the king, till the year 1606; when he sold his place to a French physician; and in 1607, an Englishman of quality who had been his patient, carried him over to England.\* Here he

\* SOME incertainty attends the time of Mayerne's settling in England. Wood, in his *Fasti*, places the incorporation of Mayerne at Oxford, in the year 1606, and says he was then physician to the queen. On the other hand, Mayerne, in his dedicatory epistle of Mouffet's *Theatrum Insectorum* to Sir William Paddy, says, that after the assassination of his master Henry



he was honoured with a private conference with king James, who appointed him first physician to himself and his queen; and from this period to his death, he appears to have been considered as the first person in the profession in this kingdom. He was received into both Universities, and into the College of Physicians, and treated with the greatest respect by these learned bodies. In the course of his practice, he had under his care, not only the whole royal family, but a great number of the principal persons, of both sexes, about the court; and ever maintained an unblemished character for care, diligence, and fidelity in the discharge of his profession.

ONE of the most important, and at the same time, most unfortunate occurrences during the course of his employment, was the fatal

Henry IV. he was called into England by letters from king James's own hand, who also sent a person expressly to conduct him over. Henry was not assassinated till May 14, 1610. From these different accounts it appears probable, that he had visited England and formed connections at court, some time before he came to reside here.

sickness

sickness of Henry prince of Wales, the eldest son of king James, and the darling hope of his subjects. This prince was taken ill on October 15, 1612; but it was not till the 25th, that his disorder was thought of importance enough to require the assistance of Dr. Mayerne, in addition to that of Dr. Hammond his physician in ordinary. The disease was a putrid fever; and the most accurate account of its progress, together with every circumstance of the prince's constitution and manner of life which might predispose to it, is given in the collection of cases left by Mayerne; who, from the time of his being called in, appears to have had the chief management of the case. The patient died on November 6, and from the whole course of the symptoms, as well as the appearances on dissection, there cannot be the least doubt that his death was the consequence of a natural disease, and not induced by any iniquitous means, as some of the enemies of that unhappy family have affected to believe. We find, however, that certain malicious reflections, which were at that time made, against either the fidelity or skill of our physician

fician in this affair, influenced him, besides drawing up both in French and Latin a minute account of the whole disease and its treatment, to procure a certificate from the king, expressing the most perfect satisfaction with his conduct; and two others from the lords of the council, and the officers and gentlemen of the prince, to the same purpose. His disagreement in opinion with the other physicians, with respect to bleeding the patient, made this caution the more necessary.

IN the beginning of the year 1618, he was sent into France by king James, about some matters of importance; but being suspected of a design to embroil affairs in that kingdom, he was commanded to leave it. In July 1624, he received the honour of knighthood from king James; and in August the same year he wrote a letter to his colleagues, the ordinary physicians of the king and prince, acquainting them, that as he was going to be absent, probably for some time, from his duty at court, (with the permission, however, of the king) he thought proper to select for their perusal certain forms  
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of prescription, and methods of practice, of which his experience had taught him the efficacy in the disorders to which his illustrious patients were most liable. Certain prudential rules for their conduct are prefixed, which shew the man of sense and liberal sentiments, but might perhaps be thought somewhat assuming and officious by those to whom they were addressed. It does not appear where he went at this time, nor how long he was absent. On the accession of Charles I. he was appointed first physician to him and his queen, and rose still higher in authority and reputation during that reign. He appears to have been in great favour with queen Henrietta, as indeed he had been with her royal predecessor; and it may be thought that he made himself acceptable and necessary to these ladies, by condescending to matters rather beneath the dignity of his profession. Among the numerous prescriptions for them, which make the subject of a separate book in his works, we find a vast proportion relating to cosmetics of every kind, pastes, lotions, dentifrices, sweet bags, hair powders and the like; and directions concerning certain feminine orna-  
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mental minutiaë, rather deserving the attention of the *friseur* or corn-cutter than the physician. How far court physicians of every nation may be obliged to enter into these niceties, I pretend not to determine; but I confess there appears to me in the character of Mayerne, however respectable for knowledge and integrity, that spirit of insinuating into favour by minute attentions, and of engrossing every branch of medical trust, which often distinguishes the physicians of other countries from the more generous and liberal ones of our own.

THE life of Mayerne, spent uniformly in the practice of his profession at court and among the great, affords few anecdotes for the biographer. We find it mentioned by himself that in 1628 he was for some time absent from his duty on account of a very severe illness with which his wife was attacked. In 1632 an instance of the esteem in which he was held by the College of Physicians appears, in his being desired to draw up their opinion concerning a person suspected to have been poisoned, which, from some difficulties that  
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occurred on the trial, was required of them by his majesty. In this paper his name is signed next to that of the president. In 1635 he wrote a letter to the president of the College, complaining of one Evans, a minister and empiric, who had abused his name concerning the antimonial cup. The complaint was attended to ; but the man's use of Mayerne's name, though falsely, is an evidence that he was considered as a patron and promoter of chemical medicine.

WE do not hear how he disposed of himself during the civil commotions which raged in the latter part of his life. He doubtless adhered to the royal party ; for he was appointed nominal first physician to Charles II. after the decease of his father. Thus he enjoyed the almost unparalleled honour of serving four kings successively in his medical capacity. At length, full of years, wealth, and reputation, he died at Chelsea in the eighty-second year of his age, March 15,\* 1655. It is said that the immediate cause of

\* ABOUT the 26th of March. *Wood Fast. Oxon. I.*  
175.



his death proceeded from the effects of bad wine, and that he foretold the event to some friends with whom he had been drinking moderately at a tavern in the Strand. He was buried in the church of St. Martin's in the Fields, where the bodies of his mother, first wife, and five of his children had been deposited; and his funeral sermon was preached by a presbyterian minister. He left behind him an only daughter, who was married to the marquis de Montpouvillon. He bequeathed his library to the College of Physicians.

FROM a print extant of Sir Theodore Mayerne, he appears to have been very corpulent, with an open dignified countenance. He is said to have had this singularity, that he kept no regular meals, but had his table constantly covered, so that he could eat whenever he found himself disposed.

BESIDES the title of knighthood conferred upon him by Charles I. he was baron of Aulbone in France; but whether this was conferred or hereditary, I am not able to determine.

THE only work which Sir Theod. Mayerne is said to have published in his life time, was the apology before-mentioned, entitled *Apologia, in qua videre est, inviolatis Hippocratis & Galeni legibus, Remedia Chemicæ præparata tuto usurpari posse. Rupel. 1603.* Guy Patin, who was no friend to our author, attributes this piece to Seguin and Akakia the younger. Whether from the effect of this piece, or the successful practice of Mayerne and the other patrons of chemical remedies, it is said that the faculty of Paris soon retracted their censures, and extolled the writings and medicines of the chemists with as much ardour as they had before condemned them.

OF the other pieces which have been at different times published under the name of Mayerne, the following list is given.

*Medicinal Counsels and Advices; and a Treatise on the Gout*, written in French, and translated into Latin and published by Theophilus Bonetus. This work was translated into English by Dr. Thomas Sherley, physician in ordinary to Charles II. and published in 1676. 12mo. The author attributes the gout to the corrosive

rosive quality of a certain *tartarous* matter, or *salt*, separated from the mass of blood, and thrown upon those parts which are most apt to receive it. After some directions for a regimen to prevent attacks of the gout, he proceeds to medicines, of which vomits and purgatives are the principal. The vomit which he principally approves, is antimonial wine, made by an infusion of crocus metal-lorum. To those who do not like medicines, he recommends the beastly practice of gorging the stomach once a month with a great quantity of food and drink, in order to provoke vomiting. Of purgatives, he bestows particular praises on calomel, given to the dose of a scruple. Among the medicines which sweeten and correct the humours, he mentions *sugar of lead*, which he says may be safely taken inwardly with proper conserves. He gives a gout powder, one of the ingredients of which is *raspings of a human skull unburied*; and again, speaking of the good effects of absorbents, he particularly recommends *human bones* of the same kind with the parts affected. These tokens of superstition are not invalidated by a recipe contained in the same book, of an

unguent for hypochondriacal persons, which he calls his *balsam of bats*. In the composition of this there enter, adders, bats, sucking whelps, earth-worms, hog's grease, the marrow of a stag, and of the thigh-bone of an ox—ingredients fitter for the witches' cauldron in Macbeth, than a learned physician's prescription. On the whole, this publication does not inspire a very high idea of its celebrated author.

*Praxeos Mayernianæ in morbis internis gravioribus & chronicis Syntagma*; first published at London in 1690, by his godson Sir Theodore de Vaux; who likewise in 1687 communicated to the Royal Society, *Mayerne's Account of the Diseases of Dogs, with several Receipts for Canine Madness*, printed in the Philosophical Transactions of that year. The *Praxis Mayerniana* is a view of the method of cure used by this physician in a number of disorders. It consists almost entirely of prescriptions, containing scarcely any thing of the description of diseases, or discrimination of their several stages and variations; and therefore will be thought of much less utility

utility than Dr. Charleton in his pompous preface seems to promise. The medicines prescribed are numerous and extremely compound. Vestiges of antient superstition frequently appear. The secundines of a woman at her first labour who has been delivered of a male child, the bowels of a mole cut open alive, mummy made of the lungs of a man who has suffered a violent death, the liver of frogs, and the blood of weasels, are articles of his *materia medica*. Amulets of various kinds, simple and compound, are likewise directed. In one respect, however, the author's credulity seems in some degree regulated by good sense. He was consulted about a woman suspected to be a demoniac. In his answer, he says, that though he does not doubt of the power of the devil in exciting disturbances in the human body, he is likewise aware of the artifices of men: and that therefore he acknowledges only two certain marks of real possession; one, where illiterate persons become able to discourse solidly and readily in various languages and on topics of different arts and sciences; the other, where their bodies are taken up and suspended for a



considerable time in the air. If these criteria had been always applied, the number of demoniacs upon record would have been much lessened.

THERE are some particular observations in this book worthy of being noted. Under the head of epilepsy, the author mentions having met with a case, in which an epileptic person falling into an intermitting fever was entirely cured, after a few paroxysms, of his former disorder. Speaking of the cataract, he describes a singular operation performed by a female English oculist, which was, opening the cornea above the pupil with a needle, and discharging the aqueous humour, the foulness of which had obstructed vision. The operation was successful, the eye soon filling again, and the wound healing without a scar. Concerning vomitings, a curious story is related, of a woman's drinking by mistake a pint of antimonial wine in an apothecary's shop. When from its operation she was nearly expiring, the apothecary luckily gave her some cream of tartar, the first thing that came to hand; three or four drams of which instantly stopt the vomiting. It appears from  
this



this author that a mineral water at Wellinborough in Northamptonshire was at that time in high repute. According to him, it contained a good deal of iron, some vitriol, and alum, or nitre. The formulæ of some nostrums of Mayerne's are added at the end of this work. Several of them are preparations of iron and of mercury.

*Traſſatus de cura Gravidarum*, added to an edition of the *Praxis Mayern*.

*Epistol. de Gonorrhæa inveteratæ, & Carunculæ & Ulceris in meatu urinario curatione ad Georg. Mat. Koningium.*

THE substance of most of these articles is included in Dr. Joseph Browne's publication, entitled *Mayernii Opera Medica, completentia Consilia, Epistolas & Observationes; Pharmacopœiam variasque Medicamentorum formulas.* Lond. 1701. fol. In the preface, Dr. Browne complains that Dr. Charleton opposed the design of reprinting Mayerne's works entire, and would have had them abridged and methodized, and such parts left out as greatly differed from modern practice. Browne did  
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not agree to this opinion, but has published them in the order and form in which they were written, from M.S.S. lodged in the College of Physicians. The printing is extremely incorrect. The first book in this volume consists of medical cases treated by the author, to most of which the names of the patients are prefixed, who are, in general, persons of the first quality in France and England. They comprehend a series from 1605 to 1640. The descriptions are generally distinct, minute and judicious, and the reasonings, though commonly founded upon the erroneous doctrines of that time, are yet acute and learned. The method of cure likewise for the most part appears founded upon rational principles and just observation; but the vast farrago of medicines prescribed, the successive effects of which are seldom related, confound one's ideas, and prevent those practical conclusions which might otherwise be deduced from real cases so circumstantially drawn up. Notwithstanding his supposed attachment to chemical remedies, not many of these occur among his prescriptions, which are mostly of the compound form of the Galenical

Galenical school. Chalybeates and preparations from tartar are indeed pretty frequently met with, but mercurials and antimonials scarcely ever. The great proportion of hypochondriac and hysteric cases, in both sexes, may appear somewhat remarkable, and contradictory to the supposition that the frequency of these disorders is a modern variation in the state of diseases. But it must be remembered, that almost all Mayerne's patients were people of rank. We have already mentioned the case of prince Henry as one of the most important. It affords a complete specimen of the practice in a putrid fever before the use of Peruvian bark; which might in all probability have been given here with much advantage, as there was a fair intermission of the fever at the beginning. Purgatives, cooling cordials, and the supposed alexipharmicks, such as bezoar, &c. were exhibited; and as the last resource, diascordium, without which no one could then die *secundum artem*, was administered. A spontaneous bleeding at the nose seemed to Dr. Mayerne an indication for venesection, which after much opposition was performed on the eighth

eight day of the disease. The blood was of a broken dissolved texture; and notwithstanding the temporary relief this operation seemed to afford, most practitioners at present would, I imagine, approve the conduct of the other physicians, who unanimously refused to allow its repetition, although it was much pressed by Mayerne. The case of the celebrated Isaac Casaubon likewise deserves notice. This learned man was seized with a gradual difficulty, and at length a total suppression of urine, of which he died in great torture. On dissection, there appeared to be a total obliteration of the canal of the urethra, owing to a kind of sac communicating with the bladder which received all the urine. A case in which caruncles and strictures in the urethra were complicated with a stone in the bladder, gives room for the author to exhibit much knowledge of surgery in the treatment. The use of bougies, both simple and medicated, is very exactly and judiciously directed; and a gangrene which supervened after lithotomy is managed with much skill. Indeed, he left behind him several writings expressly upon surgical subjects, which Dr. Browne had  
a design

a design of publishing, but it miscarried for want of encouragement.

THE second part of this volume consists of a Pharmacopœia, in which a great number of formulæ, mostly collected from other authors, are thrown together with very little order or method. They are both Chemical and Galenical; and the former are in much greater number and variety than those which are mentioned in his own private practice. The exuberance of chalybeate preparations shows him to have been fond of that remedy; and this is confirmed by a Latin advertisement prefixed to the book concerning the sale of Dr. Mayerne's chalybeate pills. Little of neatness and elegance can be expected in the formulæ of that day; and this part of the work is rather curious than useful. The folly of amulets, sympathetic ointments, and antidotes was not yet quite exploded; and the prescriptions for analeptics and provocatives to be met with in this collection, must be considered as still more derogatory from the dignity of the profession, than the cosmetic branch of court practice which we before took  
occasion



occasion to censure.\* They are however a kind of progression towards another part of our physician's character, that of a cook; for to him is attributed a book entitled *Excellent and well-approved Receipts and Experiments in Cookery, with the best Way of Preserving, &c.* printed in 1658.

HE appears in a much more respectable light as employing his knowledge in chemistry to the advancement of the fine arts. We are told in the life of Petitot the famous painter in enamel,† that this artist perfected his skill in colouring by his visit to England, where he became acquainted with Sir Theodore Mayerne, then first physician to Charles I. who had by a course of experiments discovered the principal colours to be used for enamel, and the proper means of vitrifying them. Mayerne introduced this artist to the king, who went often to see him work, as he took pleasure in painting and in chemical experiments, to which his physician had given him a turn.

\* THERE is a description as gross and lascivious as any thing in old John of Gaddefden, in Prax. Mayern. p. 407.

† Brit. Biogr. tom. VI. p. 139.



NATURAL philosophy was another branch of science which he appears to have cultivated. He was the editor of Mouffet's posthumous work on insects; in an epistle prefixed to which, he recites, in a manner that shews him well acquainted with the subject, many of the wonders observable in this minute class of animals.

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## ROBERT FLUDD,

OR, as he stiled himself in Latin, *De Fluctibus*, second son of Sir Thomas Fludd, treasurer of war to queen Elizabeth, was born in 1574 at Milgate in Kent. He was educated at St. John's College, Oxford; and after taking his degree in arts, attached himself to the study of physick, and spent almost six years in his travels through the principal countries of Europe. It was probably during these peregrinations that he imbibed a taste for the Rosycrucian philosophy, of which he ever after was a most strenuous supporter, and indeed almost the only one who became eminent

nent in it in this kingdom. He proceeded as doctor of physic in 1605, and about that time settled in London, and was made a fellow of the College of Physicians. He was a very voluminous author in his sect, diving into the farthest profundities and most mysterious obscurities of the Rosic-cross, and blending in a most extraordinary manner divinity, chemistry, natural philosophy, and metaphysics. Such a vein of warm enthusiasm runs through his works, that we may readily suppose him to have been a believer in the mystical jargon of his system. He is said to have used a kind of sublime unintelligible cant to his patients, which by inspiring them with greater faith in his skill, might in some cases contribute to their cure. There is no doubt, at least, that it would assist his reputation; and accordingly we find that he was eminent in his medical capacity. His philosophy, however, whether owing to the dawning of a more enlightened period, in this island, or a less natural taste for such abstruse speculations in his countrymen, was received with less applause at home than abroad. The celebrated Gassendus had a controversy with him; which

which shows, at least, that he was not considered as an insignificant writer. As the Rosy-crucian sect is now entirely extinct, I shall not trouble the reader with the long list of his works, given by Wood. They are mostly written in Latin, and the largest of them, entitled *Nexus utriusque Cosmi, &c.* has some extremely singular prints in it, which are only to be understood by a second-sighted adept.\*

DR. FLUDD died at his house in Coleman-street, London, on September 8, 1637, and was buried in the parish church of his native place.

IT is said that Dr. Fludd was in possession of the M. S. S. of Simon Forman, the astrologer. This circumstance leads me to say something of the pretenders to physic and astrology, who were much in vogue about that time, and continued to be held in some estimation till the beginning of the present century. We have seen that the studies of mathematics, astronomy and medicine were

\* Granger, *Biograph. Hist.*

early united in several persons who have been the subjects of these memoirs. Real astronomy gave birth to judicial astrology; which offering an ample field to enthusiasm and imposture, was eagerly pursued by many who had no scientific purpose in view. It was connected with various juggling tricks and deceptions, affected an obscure jargon of language, and insinuated itself into every thing in which the hopes and fears of mankind were concerned. The professors of this pretended science were generally persons of mean education, in whom low cunning supplied the place of real knowledge. Most of them engaged in the empirical practice of physic, and some, through the credulity of the times, even arrived at a degree of eminence in it; yet since the whole foundation of their art was folly and deceit, I cannot think them proper subjects for a more particular relation. Chemical empirics, although enthusiastical, and perhaps in general ignorant, may introduce valuable improvements in the practice of medicine: but astrological impostors never can. I shall therefore take no farther notice of this sect; but refer the curious

curious reader to *Lilly's Account of his own Life*, in which he has characterized many of the most noted amongst them, as well as himself, in such a manner as can leave no doubt of their united ignorance and knavery.

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## THOMAS WINSTON,

BORN in 1575, was the son of a carpenter, the place of whose abode we are not informed of. He was educated in Clare hall, Cambridge, of which he became fellow. In 1602 he took the degree of M. A. and then went abroad for improvement in the study of physick. He attended the lectures of Fabricius ab Aquapendente and Prosper Alpinus at Padua, and of Caspar Bauhine at Basil, and took the degree of doctor at Padua. On his return to England, he graduated again at Cambridge in 1607. He afterwards settled in London, where he became eminent in his profession; and in 1613 was admitted a candidate of the

T 2 College

College of Physicians, and the next year was made fellow.

ON the death of Dr. Mounsell, professor of physic in Gresham college, Dr. Winston was chosen on the 25th of October 1615, to succeed him. One of his competitors was Dr. Simeon Fox, son of the celebrated martyr-ologist; of whom, and Dr. Argent, it is recorded, that they were the last presidents of the College of Physicians who used to ride on horseback in London to visit their patients. Dr. Winston held his professorship till the year 1642, during which time he acquired a handsome fortune; but then, upon permission of the House of Lords, he went over to France on a sudden, without having settled his affairs, or provided for the security of his estate. The cause of this hasty departure seems to have been some apprehensions from the parliament, whose party then began to prevail, and whom he had probably offended by the discovery of some secrets entrusted to him. Dr. Hamey, in his M. S. life of Dr. Winston, says he withdrew himself *præ metu Angerone*\* *sæpius læsæ*,

\* THE Goddess of Silence.



& *jam pœnas minitantis*. His professorship in Gresham college thus becoming vacant, after he had been six months absent, Dr. Paul De Laune was chosen in his room.

HE staid abroad about ten years; and in 1652, having, by the interest of his friends, accommodated matters with the persons in power, he returned to England, and was restored to his professorship, and what else he possessed at the time of his departure. Of this affair, Whitelocke, in his Memoirs, gives the following account. "July 10, 1652. Dr. "Winston, a physician, in the beginning of "the late troubles, by leave of the House of "Lords went over into France, and there "continued till very lately, that he returned "into England. In his absence, none being "here to look after his business for him, his "estate was sequestered, as if he had been a "delinquent; and his place and lodgings of "physic professor in Gresham college were "taken from him: though he had never "acted any thing against the parliament, but "had been out of England all the time of "the troubles. Whereupon application being

“ made to the committee of sequestrations, an  
 “ order was procured for his being restored to  
 “ his place and lodgings in Gresham college;  
 “ and the sequestration of his estate, which  
 “ was £500 *per ann.* was also taken off.”  
 From the expression “ had never acted any  
 thing against the parliament,” it would seem,  
 as professor Ward observes,\* that his offence  
 had consisted in words only, not in actions.  
 At the time of his leaving the kingdom, he  
 was one of the elects of the College of Phy-  
 sicians; and this place being also forfeited by  
 his absence, he was re-chosen on a vacancy  
 in June 1653.

HE did not long enjoy this favourable  
 change in his circumstances, for he died Octo-  
 ber 24, 1655, being then eighty years of age.

HE was much valued as a gentleman and  
 a scholar, as well as an eminent physician.  
 Meric Casaubon calls him “ the great orna-  
 “ ment of his profession.” Dr. Hamer’s praise  
 will scarcely be thought very advantageous to

\* *Lives of Gresham Professors*; from which this article  
 is extracted.

his character. He commends him for supporting the dignity of the faculty against the apothecaries, making use of but one himself, whom he commanded like a master; "*beriliter imperavit.*" On this account he esteems him a benefactor to the College. The members of that learned body at present, seem to think they can sustain the dignity of their profession, without putting on the manners of a bashaw.

DR. WINSTON did not publish any thing; but after his death a treatise appeared, entitled

*Anatomy Lectures at Gresham College: By that eminent and learned Physician, Dr. Thomas Winston. Lond. 1659, 1664. 8vo.*

THE editor, in an epistle prefixed, supposes, from certain expressions, that they were also read by the author in his appointed course at the College of Physicians. They comprehend an entire body of anatomy, with the improvements down to his time, which includes the discoveries of Harvey; and were supposed the most complete and accurate then extant in the English language.

## T O B I A S V E N N E R

WAS born of genteel parents at Petherton, near Bridgewater, in Somersetshire, in the year 1577, and at the age of seventeen became a commoner of St. Alban's hall, Oxford. After taking a degree in arts, he entered upon the physic line, and practised for a time about Oxford. In 1613, he took the degree of doctor; and returning to his own country, practised for many years at Bridgewater; but afterwards, at or near Bath. He was highly esteemed in that part of the country for skill in his profession, and maintained the character of an upright and charitable person. He died March 27, 1660; and was buried in St. Peter's church in Bath, where a monument with a large inscription, by Dr. Pierce of that city, was erected to his memory.

DR. VENNER acquired great popular fame by a work of his, entitled "*Via Recta ad Vitam longam* : or A plain Philosophical Demonstration of the Nature, Facul-

ties

“ ties and Effects of all such Things as by Way  
 “ of Nourishments make for the Preservation  
 “ of Health, with divers necessary dietetical  
 “ Observations; as also of the true Use and  
 “ Effects of Sleep, Exercise, Excretions, and  
 “ Perturbations, with just Applications to  
 “ every Age, Constitution of Body, and Time  
 “ of Year.” This copious title will sufficiently acquaint the reader with the subject of the work. It was published in two separate parts; the first in 1620, and the second in 1623: and both were incorporated in subsequent editions. It is a plain practical piece; extremely different in manner from Dr. Mousset’s *Treatise on Foods*, though similar in subject. His account of the several articles treated of, is compiled (though without any quotations) from the current authors of that time; and his rules and admonitions, delivered with all due gravity and authority, are equally trite. His style and manner are well calculated for a popular work, being plain, grave and diffuse. Dr. Guidott, in his *Lives of Bath Physicians*, attempting to ridicule the good doctor, quotes from him this memorable observation, that “ a gammon of bacon  
 “ is

“is of the same nature with the rest of  
“the hog.”\*

To the edition of the *Via Recta* in 1638, were added the following pieces.

*A Compendious Treatise concerning the Nature, Use and Efficacy of the Bathes at Bath.* Dedicated to the queen. This is a very short piece, consisting chiefly of general directions concerning the use of the waters, every where referring the patient to the advice of a *physician resident in the place* for particulars. It is dubious, from his language, whether the waters were used internally in his time. He no where even hints that they were; on the contrary, all his directions respect bathing: yet his list of diseases for which Bath offers a remedy, includes some which would seem to require drinking rather than bathing; as some windy and hydropic disorders, tumours of the spleen and liver, and the jaundice.

*Advertisement concerning the taking of Physic in the Spring.* This is a very trifling little

\* He says it is of the same nature, but not so good; being harder of digestion.

piece,



piece, chiefly consisting of invective against empirics.

*Censure concerning the Water of St. Vincent's Rocks near Bristol.* This is said to be the first treatise relating to Bristol water. It contains plain directions for its use, particularly in cases of stone and ulcers of the bladder, for which it was then much celebrated.

*Brief and accurate Treatise concerning the taking of the Fume of Tobacco.* This is a tolerably sensible account of the properties of tobacco, in which he attempts to restrict its use to medical purposes, and to restrain the promiscuous custom of taking it, which was then become extremely fashionable.

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## W I L L I A M H A R V E Y.

ALTHOUGH many of the persons we have hitherto commemorated were eminent in various branches of literature, and either adorned their profession by elegant accom-

accomplishments, or enriched their art by useful observations ; yet none of them can be considered as giving a new æra to the medical science in general, by great and signal discoveries. The barrenness of our biographical records in this respect, is however amply repaid by the renowned subject of the present article ; who enlightened the world with the investigation of a law in the animal œconomy, of such fundamental importance, as justly to place his name in the highest rank of natural philosophers. The same services which Newton afterwards rendered to optics and astronomy by his theories of light and gravitation, Harvey rendered to anatomy by his true doctrine of the circulation : and from the intimate connection of this science with the healing art, the practical utility of this discovery has not been inferior to its speculative beauty ; insomuch that Sir Thomas Browne might with some reason prefer it to the discovery of the new world.

WILLIAM HARVEY was descended from a respectable family in the county of Kent. His father, Thomas Harvey, had seven sons  
and

and two daughters. Five of the sons were brought up to a commercial life, and engaged in the Turkey trade, by which they acquired plentiful fortunes. William, the eldest son, who happily for mankind, chose a literary profession, was born at Folkstone, in Kent, on the first of April, 1578. At ten years of age he was sent to the grammar school in Canterbury; and having here laid a proper foundation of classical learning, he was removed to Gonvile and Caius college in Cambridge, and admitted there as a pensioner in May 1593. After spending six years at this university in those academical studies which are preparatory to a learned profession, he went abroad for the acquisition of medical knowledge; and travelling through France and Germany, he fixed himself at Padua. The university of this city was then in the height of its reputation for the study of physic; for which it was principally indebted to Fabricius ab Aquapendente, the professor of anatomy, whose lectures Harvey attended with the utmost diligence; as he did likewise those of Minadous in the practice of medicine, and Casserius in surgery. Here he took his doctor's

tor's degree, the diploma for which, drawn up in extraordinary terms of approbation,\* is dated April 25, 1602, when Harvey had just completed his twenty-fourth year.

IN the course of the same year he returned to his own country; and after having again graduated at Cambridge, he settled in the practice of his profession at London. At the age of twenty-six he married the daughter of Launcelot Browne, M. D. by whom he never had any children. How long she lived with him we are not informed; but from a bequest in the will of John Harvey, the doctor's brother, it appears that she was living in 1645.

IN 1604 he was admitted a candidate of the College of Physicians, and was elected fellow

\* IN quo quidem examine adeo mirifice & excellentissime se gessit, talemque ac tantam ingenii, memoriæ, & doctrinæ vim ostendit, ut expectatione quam de se apud omnes concitaverat, longissime superata, a prædictis Exc<sup>mis</sup>. Doctoribus unanimiter & concorditer, cunctisque suffragiis, ac eorum nemine penitus atque penitus discrepante, aut dissentiente, nec hæsitante quidem, idoneus & sufficientissimus in Artibus & Medicina fuerit judicatus.

DIPLOMA, printed in the College Edition of Harvey's Works.

about

about three years after. About this time the governors of St. Bartholomew's hospital made an order, that on the decease of Dr. Wilkinson, physician to that charity, Dr. Harvey should succeed him in his office; which event took place the next year. A more important circumstance in the life of this great man occurred in the year 1615, when the College of Physicians appointed him reader of the anatomical and chirurgical lectures founded by Lord Lumley and Dr. Caldwall. It was in the course of these lectures, that he first publicly delivered his new doctrines concerning the circulation; as sufficiently appears from some M. S. of his, still extant, in which the principal propositions concerning that important fact are laid down; and likewise from his referring to the lectures in the dedication of his book to the College of Physicians. The index of his M. S. *De Anatomia Universa*, preserved in the British Museum, which contains these propositions, is dated as early as April 16, 17, 18; 1616; but the year 1619 is usually supposed the time of his first openly disclosing his opinions on the subject. That this great discovery was  
first

first made public in an anatomical school at London, is certainly a very honourable circumstance in the literary history of that metropolis; which, however celebrated as the seat of opulence and splendour, has not been in general considered as a nursery of science.

THE character of Harvey now began to recommend him to the notice of the court, and he was appointed physician to king James I. though in what precise year we are not able to ascertain. From a letter of the king to Harvey, dated February 3, 1623, it appears, that he had been for some time physician extraordinary to his majesty; who, as a mark of singular favour, grants him permission to consult with the ordinary physicians concerning his health, and promises to constitute him one of that number on the first vacancy; which, however, did not take place till seven years after, in the next reign. In the year 1627, he was appointed one of the elects of the College of Physicians; and in 1628, his doctrine of the circulation, which had been gradually maturing for several years, during a series of patient experiment and cautious reason-



reasoning, was first committed to the press at Frankfort. The choice of this city for the place of publication is supposed to have arisen from its celebrated fairs, by means of which, books printed there were rapidly circulated throughout all Germany, and the greatest part of Europe. The great commotions this work excited in the learned world, the attempts of some to refute his arguments, and of others to rob him of the honour of original discovery, will be more properly displayed when we come to the separate consideration of his literary character. I shall now only observe, that notwithstanding the rank he held in his profession, and the favourable reception of his opinions by his brethren of the faculty at home, such is the general prejudice against an innovator, that we find him complaining to a friend, that his practice considerably declined after the publication of his book.

For this mortification he was, however, greatly recompensed by the regard and favour of his royal master Charles I. whose attachment to the arts and sciences formed a con-

U                      spicuous

spicuous part of his character. It is not without a degree of pardonable vanity that Harvey describes this king, with some of the noblest persons about his court, as deigning to be the spectators and witnesses of his experiments. The interest his majesty took in the success of his anatomical researches was of singular service to him in his enquiries concerning the nature of generation, as the king's favourite diversion of stag-hunting furnished him with the opportunity of dissecting a vast number of animals of that species in a pregnant state. A farther mark of Charles's esteem of the man, as well as of the physician, appears in his appointing Harvey to accompany the young duke of Lenox in his travels; on which occasion, the governors of St. Bartholomew's hospital allowed him to delegate his office to Dr. Smyth during his absence. Some years after, Harvey, by his influence, caused several regulations to pass for the correction of various abuses which had crept into the hospital, particularly respecting the reception and management of patients, and the intrusion of the surgeons into the physician's department. About the same time,

as

as his office at court obliged him to a close attendance upon the king's person, the governors appointed Dr. Andrews his assistant in the hospital, yet still, in consideration of his merit and services, continued his former salary. He visited Scotland, probably in attendance on the king, during this period; and has given a specimen of his observations there, in a most elegant and picturesque description of the Bass island.

THE civil wars now breaking out, Harvey, who was attached to the king by office, gratitude and affection, accompanied him in his several journeys; and after the battle of Edge-hill he went, with the rest of the royal household, to Oxford. Here he was incorporated doctor of physic, on December 7, 1642; and in 1645, by his majesty's mandate, he was made warden of Merton college, in the room of Dr. Nathaniel Brent, who, in compliance with the prevailing party, had left the university and taken the covenant. This preferment was merited by Harvey, not only on account of his fidelity and services, but his sufferings in the royal cause: for,

U 2 during

during the confusions of the times, his house in London was plundered of the furniture, and, what was a much heavier loss, of his papers, containing a great number of anatomical observations, particularly with regard to the generation of insects. This was an irretrievable injury, and has extorted from him the following pathetic, but gentle complaint. “Atque hæc dum agimus, ignoscant mihi niveæ animæ, si, summarum injuriarum memor, levem gemitum effundero. Doloris mihi hæc causa est: cum inter nuperos nostros tumultus, & bella plusquam civilia, serenissimum regem, idque non solum Senatus permissione, sed & jussu, sequor; rapaces quædam manus, non modo ædium mearum suppellectilem omnem expilarunt; sed etiam, quæ mihi causa gravior querimoniæ, adversaria mea, multorum annorum laboribus parta, e meo meo summanarunt. Quo factum est, ut observationes plurimæ, præsertim de generatione insectorum, cum reipublicæ literariæ, ausim dicere, detrimento, perierint.”\*

\* *Exercitat. LXVIII. ad finem.*

HE did not long possess the mastership of Merton college; for, upon the surrender of Oxford to the parliament, he left the place and went to London, and Dr. Brent soon after resumed his office. From this time he seems to have lived in a retired manner, residing either at London, at Lambeth, or in the house of one of his brothers at Richmond. In 1651, the seventy-first year of his age, he was prevailed upon by his intimate friend Dr. George Ent, to publish, or rather to suffer him to publish, his other great work, his *Exercitationes on the Generation of Animals*, which had employed so large a portion of his time and attention. Dr. Ent, in his prefatory epistle to the College of Physicians, gives a very elegant and pleasing account of his interview with Harvey on this occasion. I found him, says he, in his retirement not far from town, with a sprightly and chearful countenance, investigating, like Democritus, the nature of things. Asking if all was well with him, "how can that be," he replied, "when the state is so agitated with storms, and I myself am yet in the open sea? And indeed," added he, "were not my mind solaced by

“ my studies, and the recollection of the ob-  
“ servations I have formerly made, there is  
“ nothing which should make me desirous of  
“ a longer continuance. But thus employed,  
“ this obscure life, and vacation from public  
“ cares, which disquiets other minds, is the  
“ medicine of mine.” He goes on to relate  
a philosophical conversation between them,  
that brought on the mention of these papers  
of his, which the public had so long expected.  
After some modest altercation, Harvey brought  
them all to him, with permission, either to  
publish them immediately, or to suppress them  
till some future time. I went from him, says  
Dr. Ent, like another Jason, in possession of  
the golden fleece; and when I came home,  
and perused the pieces singly, I was amazed  
that so vast a treasure should have been so  
long hidden; and that while others with great  
parade exhibit to the public their stale trash,  
this person should seem to make so little  
account of his admirable observations. In-  
deed, no one appears to have possessed in a  
greater degree that genuine modesty which  
distinguishes the real philosopher from the  
superficial pretender to science. His great  
discovery



discovery was not publicly offered to the world, till after a nine years' probation among his colleagues at home; and the labours of all the latter part of his life would scarcely have appeared till after his death, had not the importunities of a friend extorted them from him.

IN December 1652, the College of Physicians testified their regard for their illustrious associate in a manner singularly honourable. They voted the erection of his statue in their hall, with the following inscription.

GULIELMO HARVEIO  
 VIRO MONUMENTIS SUIS IMMORTALI  
 HOC INSUPER COLLEGIUM MEDICORUM LONDINENSE  
 POSUIT  
 QUI ENIM SANGUINIS MOTUM  
 UT ET  
 ANIMALIBUS ORTUM DEDIT MERUIT ESSE  
 STATOR PERPETUUS.

THIS obligation soon met with a suitable return. On the second of February following, Harvey, inviting the members to a splendid entertainment, presented the College with the deed of gift of an elegantly furnished convo-

cation-room, and a museum filled with choice books and chirurgical instruments, which he had built at his own expence in their garden.

IN 1654, on the resignation of the presidency by Dr. Prujean, the College appointed Harvey, in his absence, to succeed him; and proroguing the meeting to the next day, deputed two of the elects to acquaint him with this resolution. Harvey then came, and in a handsome speech returned them thanks for the honour they had done him, but declined the office on account of his age and infirmities; at the same time recommending the re-election of Dr. Prujean, which was unanimously complied with. He still however frequented the meetings of the College; and his attachment to that body was shewn yet more conspicuously in 1656, when, at the first anniversary feast instituted by himself, he gave up his paternal estate of £56 *per ann.* in perpetuity, to their use. The particular purposes of this donation were, the institution of an annual feast, at which a Latin oration should be spoken in commemoration of the benefactors of the College; a gratuity for the orator; and a provision for the

the keeper of his library and museum. This attention to perpetuate a spirit of concord and social friendship among his brethren must suggest an amiable idea of his benevolent and liberal sentiments. At the same time he resigned his office of lecturer, which he had till then discharged, to Dr. Scarborough.

HE now with difficulty supported the burden of years and infirmities; and at length, on the third of June, 1658, having completed his eightieth year, he quietly sunk under the load. Concerning the manner of his death, a nameless report was propagated, that unable to bear the increasing calamities of old age, which were aggravated by the sudden loss of sight, he put an end to his sufferings by drinking poison. This stain on his memory will be best removed, by relating the particulars of his decease, as given in an oration before the College, by Dr. Wilson, a few days after the event. He laments that the usual serenity of Harvey's temper was in his latter days clouded by numerous infirmities, and especially by the excruciating pains of a severe gout: but alledges, that when  
drawing

drawing near his end, having composed his mind as to all his remaining concerns, he examined his pulse, as if marking with a philosophical attention the progress of approaching dissolution; and thus, with the utmost tranquillity and resignation, yielded up his breath. His body, a few days after his death, was removed in funeral procession to Hempsted in Essex, all the Fellows of the College attending it to a considerable distance from the city. His remains were deposited in a vault in the church of that place, where a monument was erected to his memory.

By his will he bequeathed the greatest part of his effects to his brother Eliab Harvey, a merchant in London; his household furniture among his relations; his books to the College of Physicians; legacies by way of memorial to his friends Drs. George Ent, and Charles Scarborough; gratuities to his servants; and £30 to St. Bartholomew's hospital. From this account it would seem that he did not die rich.

THE private character of this great man appears to have been in every respect worthy  
of

of his public reputation. Cheerful, candid and upright, he was not the prey of any mean or ungentle passion. He was as little disposed by nature to detract from the merits of others, or make an ostentatious display of his own, as necessitated to use such methods for advancing his fame. The many antagonists whom his renown, and the novelty of his opinions excited, were, in general, treated by him with modest and temperate language, frequently very different from their own; and while he refuted their arguments, he decorated them with all due praises. He lived on terms of perfect harmony and friendship with his brethren of the College; and seems to have been very little ambitious of engrossing a disproportionate share of medical practice. In extreme old age, pain and sickness were said to have rendered him somewhat irritable in his temper; and as an instance of want of command over himself at that season, it is related, that in the paroxysms of the gout he could not be prevented from plunging the affected joint in cold water: but who can think it strange that when the body was almost worn down, the mind should

also

also be debilitated? It is certain that the profoundest veneration for the great Cause of all those wonders he was so well acquainted with, appears eminently conspicuous in every part of his works. He was used to say, that he never dissected the body of any animal, without discovering something which he had not expected or conceived of, and in which he recognized the hand of an all-wise Creator. To His particular agency, and not to the operation of general laws, he ascribed all the phænomena of nature. In familiar conversation, Harvey was easy and unassuming; and singularly clear in expressing his ideas. His mind was furnished with an ample store of knowledge, not only in matters connected with his profession, but in most of the objects of liberal enquiry, especially in antient and modern history, and the science of politics. He took great delight in reading the antient poets, Virgil in particular, with whose divine productions he is said to have been sometimes so transported, as to throw the book from him, with exclamations of rapture. To complete his character, he did not want that polish and courtly address, which are necessary to the scholar who would also appear as a gentleman.

I SHALL



I SHALL now endeavour to give a concise, but distinct account of what was done by this eminent person for the improvement of science; and in order to this, it will be necessary first, to take a general view of the progress which had been made by his predecessors in those enquiries, which were the objects of his particular attention.

As far as we can understand the confused and contradictory language of the antient anatomists concerning the sanguiferous system, it seems to have been the opinion of the earliest among them, that the veins, having their origin in the liver, were the only vessels carrying the blood through the body; that in these it moved backwards and forwards, with an irregular flux and reflux; and that the arteries, arising from the heart, contained the animal spirits, which were elaborated in that organ: that this was the case in a natural and healthy state; but that when the body was diseased, the blood sometimes forced its way into the arteries. This system is in part laid down by Hippocrates; but was principally maintained by Erasistratus. Galen was the first who made

made an approach to the true doctrine, by asserting, that the arteries always contained blood in the living animal; that much blood is also contained in the left ventricle of the heart; and even that a contraction of the arteries propels the blood into the veins: but, on the other hand, he always supposes that the blood flows from the right side of the heart into the vena cava, and thence through the body; that the arteries only receive blood from the veins; that the circulatory motion from one set of vessels to another is not constant; that all the blood which goes to the lungs is employed in their nutrition; and that the liver, rather than the heart, is the fountain of blood. He describes with accuracy the valves of the heart, but had no right conception of their action.

THE opinions of Galen were of such inviolable authority for many centuries after, and experimental enquiries were so much neglected, that we need not wonder no advance was made in this important part of physiology till the time of Vesalius. This great man, who may be regarded as the father of modern  
anatomy,

anatomy, appears to have paid very particular attention to this subject. He confirms Galen's assertion, that the arteries always contain blood, by cutting out a piece of artery included between two ligatures. He next proves that there is a motion of the blood from the heart towards the extremities, through the arteries; and that this motion is rapid and violent; and observes that when the heart contracts, the arteries are filled. He remarks that when an artery is divided, the motion of the blood ceases below the division, but is restored if a reed be inserted into the divided ends; and also mentions, that when a ligature is made round a vein, the part nearest the heart subsides. Yet, in contradiction to all this, he also supposes, with the antients, that the blood moves from the heart through the veins: so far could prejudice operate on a person who had thrown off its yoke to a greater degree than any one in his time; and had pursued, in its highest vigour, the true experimental method of enquiry.

A LITTLE before Vesalius published his works, and some time after, Servetus, a  
Spanish

Spanish physician, so well known by the cruel persecution he underwent from Calvin, printed two theological tracts, in which he asserted the communication of the pulmonary artery and veins; that through them the blood passes from the right to the left side of the heart; and that the blood flows into the lungs not merely for the nutrition of that organ, but in order to be elaborated and subtilized, by the reception of a spirit from the air in inspiration, and the exhalation of a fuliginous matter in expiration. This important part of the true system was not, however, founded upon experiment, but was an ingenious hypothesis, which its author would have found it difficult to support, since he was ignorant of the force of the heart in propelling the blood, and the action of its valves in determining that force to a particular direction. In other points he adopted the errors of Galen; supposing the liver and veins to be the seat of the blood, and the heart and arteries that of the vital spirit, which was at times communicated to the blood by anastomoses.

IN 1569, Realdus Columbus, an excellent anatomist, published a book at Venice, in  
which

which he more particularly describes the passage of the blood from the right to the left side of the heart, through the lungs; and also demonstrates that the structure of the sigmoid valves at the beginning of the pulmonary artery must prevent the reflux of the blood into the heart; and that the tricuspid valves must have the same effect in preventing the return of the blood received by the right ventricle from the *vena cava*. But he denies the muscular structure of the heart; gives no experiment to prove the communication between the pulmonary artery and veins; and makes the liver the fountain from whence the body is supplied with blood by means of the veins.

CÆSALPINUS, who published about twelve years after, adopts a system still nearer the true one, though mixed with errors and inconsistencies. He supposes, after Aristotle, two kinds of blood, one serving for the increase of the body, the other for its aliment. The former he derives from the liver into the *vena cava*, whence he imagines it to be attracted by the heat of the heart into the right ventri-

cle. Then, pursuing the reasoning of Columbus concerning the valves of the heart, he traces the blood through the lungs (where he supposes it not to receive a spirituous nature from the air, but only to be cooled by it) to the left ventricle, and thence to the *aorta*, the valves of which prevent its return. He now conceives that the blood putting on a spirituous and alimentary nature, undergoes an effervescence, which distends the heart and arteries; during which distention, the blood and vital spirits are carried through the arteries to all parts of the body; while at the same time the *active aliment* is by means of anastomoses elicited from the veins. The heart and arteries then become flaccid till a new effervescence is generated; and this alternation is the cause of the pulse. Further, he alledges that the extreme ramifications of the arteries communicate with those of the veins; and that *during sleep* the blood with the vital spirit flows from the arteries to the veins; which he infers from the tumefaction of the veins, and diminution of the pulse of the arteries, at that period. With respect to the tumefaction of a tied vein between the ligature  
and



and the extremities, after much labour to account for it, he at length offers as a reason, that when the veins are closed by a ligature, the blood flows back to its origin, lest by its being intercepted, it should be extinguished. Thus it appears, that although Cæsalpinus admitted a circulation, he did not conceive of it as constant and rapid, nor was acquainted with its real cause or consequences.

IN this state did Harvey find the doctrine concerning the motion of the blood; and although much remained to be done, as well in completing, as in demonstrating the true system, yet it cannot reasonably be denied that much light had been thrown on the subject, and that several of its fundamental principles were unfolded. It would therefore seem that the writer of the elegant life of Harvey prefixed to the College edition of his works, was somewhat influenced by a partial attachment, when, after giving a judicious summary of the opinions of Servetus, Columbus, and Cæsalpinus, he says, “*minime verisimile videtur, ex illorum igniculis Harveium facem suam accendisse.*” We

are perhaps wrong in expressing such astonishment that the discovery of the circulation did not happen sooner ; and in placing it among those inventions which may be at once struck out by the genius and fortune of a single person. A gradual progress may be traced through the whole : and it was not the discovery of any one organ, nor any one step in reasoning, but the concurrence of many anatomical discoveries, and many theoretical deductions, which was necessary for perfecting such a system. The Chinese, who were acquainted with the use of the compass, the composition of gunpowder and porcelain, and the art of printing, long before the Europeans, are still entirely ignorant of the circulation of the blood ; as indeed they are of all the other important discoveries in anatomy ; a science which has never been the object of their experiments, and which cannot be much advanced by mere fertility of genius, or lucky accidents. With all the assistance Harvey could derive from his predecessors, there was still ample room for the display of his abilities ; and he is fairly entitled to the highest honours exalted talents can claim ; since that clear,  
compre-

comprehensive, and penetrating genius, which from a chaos of confused facts and contradictory reasonings, is able to educe a simple, connected, and demonstrated system, is certainly the most valuable and uncommon faculty of the mind. It is this precisely in which consists the merit of the immortal Newton, in those of his productions which have excited the greatest admiration.

THE method which Harvey pursues in his first celebrated treatise, entitled *Exercitatio Anatomica de Cordis & Sanguinis Motu*, is the most beautiful and satisfactory that can be imagined. After clearing the way by removing the errors of antiquity, he begins by describing the motion of the heart as we see it in the breast of a living animal. Here he shews its muscular nature, the alternate contractions of the auricles and ventricles, and the effect this must have, determined by the mechanism of the valves, in forcibly propelling the blood into the arteries. He then proves by calculation, that the blood flows faster into the arteries than it can possibly be supplied by aliment imbibed by the veins;

and as the arteries can receive blood from no other source than the veins, it must follow, either that the veins will soon be emptied, and the arteries more and more distended; or that by some secret passages and anastomoses between the veins and arteries, the former receive again the blood which they furnished to the latter. He shews how this last supposition is verified in the passage of the blood through the lungs. Moreover, since by means of the arteries more blood is distributed through every part of the body than is necessary for its nutrition, what is superabundant must go to prevent the inanition of the veins, as appears from their collapsing when the *aorta* is tied: on the other hand, the *vena cava* is surprisingly distended when a ligature is passed round it at its junction with the right auricle.\* Lastly, from the structure

\* I CANNOT resist the temptation of quoting some lines from a poem in the *Musæ Anglicanæ*, entitled *Carmen de Sanguinis Circuitu a Gulielmo Harvæo Anglo primum invento*; and signed *Rob. Grovius, A.M. Cantab.* The experiment alluded to in the text is here described with all the graces of poetry, and yet with a clearness  
and

Structure of the valves of the veins, he makes it evident, that the course of the blood through them

and precision that could not be exceeded in prose. Harvey is first represented as having laid open the thorax of a living dog.

AST ipsum interea cupidum nova cura fatigat ;  
 Quis cordis molem exagitet labor, unde calentes  
 Accipiat succos, & quas extrudat in oras ;  
 Quò fluat exundans per aperta foramina sanguis,  
 Sanguis qui, inducto venarum tegmine clausus,  
 Ambiguos trahit anfractus, & fallit eundo.  
 Sic ubi lentus Arar tacito per pingua repit  
 Culta gradu, lenique pererrat pascua rivo,  
 Incertum est partes has, an labatur in illas :  
 Cùm verò injectas accepit gurgite moles,  
 Et trabibus frænantur aquæ, vehementior exit,  
 Mutatusque fremit, superatoque aggere spumans  
 Sævitur, & in Rhodanum violentas concitat undas.  
 Ergo placet tepidos amnes, cursumque ruentis  
 Sanguinis obstruere, & nodo constringere venas.

SUNT geminæ ante alias insignes mole, modoque ;  
 Illam jure Cavam vocitat Romana juvenus,  
 Hanc olim Graii dixerunt nomine Aortam :  
 Contiguïs pariter labuntur fluctibus ambæ,  
 Et socios ambæ spargunt per corpora ramos.  
 Hanc HARVEUS, & hanc oculisque animoque remensus,  
 Fortè Cavam primò tenui complexus habenâ,

them must be from the branches to the trunks, and not the contrary. This curious part of the animal mechanism, first discovered towards the beginning of the sixteenth century by an anatomist little known, Johannes Baptista Cannanus, and after a supposed refutation, again demonstrated, and more accurately described, by Fabricius ab Aquapendente, seems to lead so directly to ascertaining the real motion of the blood, that it is surprising the consequence was not at once perceived. Yet it was entirely overlooked by Fabricius himself;

Amplum intercludit filo cohibente canalem,  
 Obscquitque vias. Atque hîc, (mirabile visu !)  
 Qui propior cordi sanguis dilabitur ultrò  
 Cordis in auriculam, depletaque sanguine vena  
 Concidit, & vacuas jungit sine flumine ripas.  
 Qui verò excelsâ vitæ distabat ab arce  
 Longiùs, astricto præclusus flamine, cœptum  
 Sistit iter, magnoque attollit vasa tumore :  
 Distentas tunicas, & claustra obstantia pulsât,  
 Implicitos nequicquam ardens perrumpere nexus.  
 Postquam hæc HARVÆUS solerti mente notârat,  
 Ipse manu nodos, & vincula linea solvit.  
 Tum subitò emissas per mota repagula sanguis  
 In patulas cordis cellas, & tecta refertur.  
 Hæc ubi visa feni, multùmque expensa sagaci,  
 Arripit ingentem, vinc'loque innectit, Aortam.

Ompia



self; and does not constitute any part of the arguments of those who made the nearest approaches to the true system. We are, however, informed by Boyle, that Harvey assured him he received the first glimpse of the truth from contemplating the structure of these valves, as exhibited by his tutor Fabricius; which circumstance will give him a claim of more originality in the prosecution of his discovery, than he would otherwise seem entitled to.

THESE demonstrative proofs of the circulatory motion of the blood, Harvey next

*Omnia nunc diversa videt, nunc altera surgit  
Naturæ facies. Nam quæ longissima venâ  
Perplexos ultra nodos porrecta jacebat,  
Mollior elapso flaccefcit sanguine; sed quæ  
Interius spectat, cordi conjuncta sinistro,  
Dura riget, succoque superveniente tumescit.  
Allabensque liquor, spatiis conclusus iniquis,  
Æstuat introrsum, vitalemque ampliat orbem,  
Et propè disrupti intendit retinacula cordis.  
His etiam rite expensis, simul omnia circum  
Laxat vinc'la senex; magno simul impete sanguis  
Emicat, & prono decurrit concitus amne;  
Corque vices peragit, renovatque arteria pulsum,  
Quantum efferre valent moribundi languida membra.*

confirms

confirms by arguments deduced from the greater probability of such a system, and its perfect agreement with various phænomena both in the sound and diseased body. He concludes with some very curious and original observations concerning the differences in the structure of the heart in different animals, and at different periods of life. He discusses the reasons why in the cold animals, and those in which the lungs are wanting, there is only one ventricle of the heart. All these varieties he proves to be deducible from, and accordant with the theory of circulation.

It was not to be expected, notwithstanding the clearness and strength of argument with which the doctrine of Harvey was supported, that mankind should at once give up their antient errors, sanctified by the authority of names to which the schools had been accustomed to pay implicit veneration. Two years after the publication of his book, Dr. James Primrose, a Frenchman, of Scotch extraction, and an incorporated graduate of Oxford, published a treatise, in which, with a good deal of logical subtilty, he disputed  
in

in favour of the antient doctrines. But his perfect ignorance of the mechanical laws of motion, and his fervile adherence to Galen, whose decrees he argues from as so many postulata, rendered him an adversary whom Harvey justly thought unworthy of an answer.

Four years after, Æmylius Parifanus, a physician at Venice, published the second part of his *Exercitationes de Subtilitate*, in which he laboured with his utmost endeavours to overthrow Harvey's doctrine, and establish his own, compounded of antient errors and extravagancies of his own invention. This he attempted to do by authorities rather than arguments; and such, indeed, as frequently contradicted one another and himself. He was an adversary more difficult to answer than the former, on account of the strange obscurity and intricacy of his style, which rendered it scarcely possible to develope his meaning. However, Dr. Ent undertook the task, and with a mixture of argument and ridicule, exposed the weakness of all that was urged against the Harveian system.

A FEW years after the publication of this reply, Joannes Riolanus the Younger, a celebrated physician and anatomist at Paris, presented his *Enchiridion Anatomicum* to Harvey, in which he had laid down a system of his own concerning the motion of the blood, in part agreeing with Harvey's, yet in other respects materially differing from it. He supposed the blood to circulate through the large vessels, namely, the *aorta* and *vena cava*; but by no means in those of the second and third regions, by which he understood the internal parts of the body and the muscles. In these he imagined all the blood was employed in the nutrition of the particles; and he supposed that the blood in the *vena portarum* and its mesenteric branches had an alternate undulatory motion. He likewise asserted that the blood entering the heart by the *vena cava* did not pass through the lungs, except in case of violent agitation from exercise or fever, but gradually transfused from the right to the left ventricle through certain pores in the *septum*.

CHIMERICAL

CHIMERICAL and unsupported as these notions were, Harvey thought it due to the former reputation of Riolanus to answer him. Accordingly, he soon printed a short epistle to him, conceived in the most respectful terms, in which, by arguments drawn from experiment, and from principles which his antagonist himself must admit, he refutes his objections, and shews the invalidity of his hypotheses.

RIOLANUS replied in an epistle to Harvey, which contains little more than the opinions delivered in his *Enchiridion*, more diffusely laid down, but still unsupported by experiments. This gave occasion to a second epistle from Harvey, wherein he examines the nature of the blood in the arteries and veins; proves that no effervescence can take place by which its bulk will be augmented in the heart, and thus produce a distension of the heart and arteries; that the imaginary separation of the vital spirits by means of the heart, cannot take place; and that the arteries are not to be considered as containing a flatulent humour of a peculiar nature,  
but

but the blood by which every part of the body is nourished and supported. He also, by proper experiments, demonstrates the passage of the blood from the mesenteric arteries to the *vena portarum*, and the impossibility of a reflux of the blood from the veins to the arteries.

RIOLANUS, still unwilling to yield, rejoined in a second epistle, in which he expresses some doubts concerning Harvey's experiments; though, as appears, on no other foundation than that they disagreed with his hypotheses, and that he had not made any himself. Harvey, finding that arguments were of no avail in convincing his antagonist, dropt the debate. Some opponents still remained; but Harvey, who in his dispute with Riolanus, had answered all the most important objections which could be raised against his doctrine, did not think himself obliged to engage any further in the controversy. Besides, the truth now began to be supported by men of reputation in various parts of Europe; and Harvey had the uncommon felicity of seeing his discovery completely established before  
his



his death. His treatises are still considered, in point of clearness of method, and solidity of argument, as the capital performances on the subject. In two respects only his reasoning is defective: his not attending to the contractile power of the arteries; and not admitting, or at least obscurely understanding the immediate communication of the minute arteries and veins. The former omission must be attributed to the imperfection of all new discoveries: the latter proceeded in part from his unwillingness to receive any hypothesis which was not confirmed by ocular demonstration; and in part from his apprehensions that it should be misapplied as an argument in favour of the possibility of a reflux from the veins to the arteries.

WITH regard to the invidious attempts to rob him of his due share of honour, by industriously searching for proofs of the knowledge of the circulation, in the obscure words and phrases of authors, who either were no anatomists, or who have in the clearest manner professed theories entirely different, they cannot, now prejudice and envy have subsided,  
require

require a refutation. It has, I imagine, been sufficiently shewn, that this important doctrine is not of a kind which could have been fallen upon casually and without premeditation: and where we are certain that the proper means could not have been used, we have sufficient reason to discredit the pretended effects.

HARVEY'S other great work, concerning *Generation*, as it consists chiefly of a detail of facts and observations, will not easily admit of an analysis. We shall however attempt to give a general idea of its nature, and the advances made in it towards the elucidation of this difficult subject.

It consists of sixty-two separate *exercitationes*; and eight more, additional to the rest. The object is to detect the nature of conception, and the origin and progress of the new animal. He takes for his chief example the hen and chick, from the ease with which this species can be procured, and the certainty to be obtained respecting the time of impregnation or incubation. After an accurate description of the parts concerned in generation, he  
treats

treats of the formation and growth of the egg, and the several parts of which it is composed. He then, from a daily inspection during the time of incubation, traces the first appearance of the chick, and its gradual progress. He was the first who discovered its origin from the cicatricula of the *ovum*, and who perceived the *punctum saliens* to be the heart. He accurately displays, as far as the eye could inform him, the successive formation of the several parts; and herein corrects many antient errors. He maintains, that the formation of viviparous animals is not different from that of birds; which he confirms by the description of what occurred in the dissection of deer in the various stages of pregnancy.

THE system of generation which he deduces from these observations, is very singular. He supposes that the blood is the *primordium* of all animals, and even prior to the vessels; that the female gives the original material, and that the male renders it vital and animated. He denies any mixture of male and female semen in coition; and that the male semen

ever penetrates to the *ovarium*, or even to the *uterus*; and imagines the *ovum* to become impregnated, not by feminal contact, but a sort of subtile contagion, as he expresses it, affecting the female rather than the *ovum*. He thinks it impossible that a material cause can occasion impregnation; but as the mind by its action produces thought or conception in the brain, so he supposes something analogous to reside in the womb, which he terms *phantasm*, by the virtue and energy of which the *ovum* is generated.

THIS theory, though supported by various metaphysical arguments, must appear as fanciful as any of those which he has endeavoured to overthrow; and it may seem extraordinary, that a person who professed so much to reason from experiment and ocular demonstration, should adopt an hypothesis from its nature utterly incapable of such proof. A philosopher of an inferior class may be allowed to shield his ignorance under plausible conjectures: from a Harvey we expect proof, or a fair confession that it is not to be had.

THE anatomical observations of Harvey, however, as they were made with great attention and accuracy, are still very valuable; and except in some instances, where the microscope has enabled the enquirer to see more clearly, they are assented to by later writers. He moreover introduces many very curious remarks in his work, both philosophical and practical, on matters connected with his principal subject. Such are those on abortions; on tubal conceptions; on hermaphrodites; on difficult labours; and on various diseases of the *uterus*. The observations on the generation of insects, which were so unfortunately lost, would, doubtless, have made a very valuable addition to this work.

A SHORT piece, giving an account of the dissection of Thomas Parr, who died in his hundred and fifty-third year; and some epistles to learned foreign physicians, extracted from the papers of Sir George Ent, are all the remains of this great man which have been published. The epistles were first printed in a splendid and accurate edition of his works,

which the College of Physicians, much to their honour, presented to the learned world in 1766, as the best monument of their illustrious colleague and benefactor. I have already mentioned the elegant Latin life of Harvey prefixed to this edition; to which I must acknowledge great obligations in the compilation of this article.

WITH respect to the style of Harvey's works, it is, perhaps, a circumstance deserving commendation, that, when treating on subjects so perfectly modern, he did not confine himself within the rules of strict latinity, but used, without scruple, such technical terms, as had been found necessary to express the ideas of an improved science. This is principally applicable to his treatises on the motion of the blood; in which, wholly intent on his subject, he appears only solicitous to write intelligibly, and inattentive to elegance. His book on generation is written in a language more pure and flowing; and from many passages in which the subject gives room for the display of eloquence, it sufficiently appears that he was no inconsiderable master  
of



of fine writing, and capable of supporting that classical reputation, which has adorned the character of so many English physicians.

THE following list is given of works which Harvey had planned or written, but were lost in the plunder of his house during the civil wars.

*A Practice of Physic, conformable to the Doctrine of the Circulation.*

*Observationes de Ufu Lienis.*

*Observationes de Motu Locali.*

*Tractatus de Pulmonum Ufu & Motu, &c.*

*Tractatus de Animalium Amore, Libidine & Coitu.*

*Observationes Medicinales.* (Those in the British Museum in Harvey's name appear not to be genuine.)

*Anatomia Medica ad Medicinæ Usum maxime accomodata.*

*De Nutritionis Modo.*

## FRANCIS GLISSON

WAS born at Rampisham in Dorsetshire in the year 1597, and educated in Caius college, Cambridge, of which he became fellow; and in 1627 was incorporated M. A. in Oxford. He then applied himself to the study of physic, in which faculty he took his degree of doctor at Cambridge; and in that university was made Regius Professor of physic, which office he held about forty years.\*

HE settled in London for the practice of his profession; and was admitted a candidate of the College of Physicians in 1634, and fellow the year after. In 1639 he was chosen

\* THE famous mathematician, Dr. Wallis, studying the speculative parts of medicine and anatomy at the university, kept his public exercise in those branches of science under Dr. Glisson; and was the first of the doctor's pupils who in a public disputation maintained the doctrine of the circulation.

*Biogr. Brit.* art. Wallis.

Anatomy

Anatomy Reader in the College; and in that department acquired great reputation by his lectures *De Morbis Partium*, which he was particularly requested by his colleagues to make public. During the civil wars he retired to Colchester, where he practised with great credit in those times of confusion; and was in the town at its memorable siege by the parliament forces in 1648.

HE was one of that small but illustrious society, who, as we are informed by Dr. Wallis, one of the members, instituted a weekly meeting in London about the year 1645, for the purpose of promoting enquiries into natural and experimental philosophy. In the years 1648 and 49, several of the members removing to Oxford on account of the civil commotions, renewed their meeting in that city; while at the same time the members remaining at London assembled as before. After the Restoration, the meetings in London being augmented by the return and accession of several eminent persons, at length happily issued in the institution of the *Royal Society*;

of which Dr. Gliffon became, of course, a member.\*

IN 1650, he published his treatise *De Rachitide, seu Morbo Puerili*; and in 1654, that *De Hepate*. In 1655, he was created one of the elects of the College, of which learned body he afterwards was several years president. During the rage of the plague in 1665, he continued in London, and visited many patients, but escaped the infection. The method he used for preservation was thrusting bits of sponge dipped in vinegar up his nostrils. Sir Theodore Mayerne has mentioned, upon the authority of Dr. Bate, a remedy used by Gliffon for himself in another case. He had been three weeks afflicted with a severe vertigo, when, after other remedies had failed, he was cured by a plaster of flowers of sulphur and white of egg applied to the whole head, close shaven.†

\* THE best account of the origin and progress of these philosophical meetings is to be met with in the preface to Dr. Ward's *Lives of Gresham Professors*.

† *Prax. Mayern.* 44.

IN

IN 1672, Glisson printed his *Traſſatus de Natura Subſtantię Energeticę*. This work is dedicated to Anthony Ashley, earl of Shaftesbury; and in the epiſtle dedicatory, he mentions having been for ſeveral years phyſician in ordinary to this nobleman and his family, and acknowledges the obligations he lay under to him for his patronage and aſſiſtance in ſeveral difficulties he had met with.

IN 1677, he published his book *De Ventriculo & Intestiſtis*; and during the courſe of this year he died, in the pariſh of St. Bride's, London, aged eighty; leaving behind him the character of a very worthy, as well as a learned and able man.

HE was one of the firſt of that group of Engliſh anatomiſts, who, incited by the great example of Harvey, purſued their enquiries into the human ſtructure, as it were in concert, and with more ardour and ſucceſs than their countrymen ever ſince that period have done. Of theſe, none exceeded Gliffon in judgment and accuracy; inſomuch that Boerhaave terms him “omnium Anatomicorum exactiſ-

“exactissimus;” and Haller, speaking of one of his books, says, “Egregius liber, ut solent  
“hujus viri esse.”

HIS first work, the *Treatise on the Rickets*, on several accounts deserves particular notice. The preface mentions that five years\* before the publication of this book, the following fellows of the College of Physicians, Drs. F. Glisson, T. Sheaf, G. Bate, A. Regemorter, J. Wright, N. Paget, J. Goddard, and E. French, members of a private society for the improvement of their profession, had communicated to each other written observations concerning this new disease. From these it was thought proper to make extracts, and to compose an express treatise on the subject; the care of which was unanimously delegated to Drs. Glisson, Bate and Regemorter. The plan at first agreed on by these gentlemen was, that each should take a separate part of the work, and complete it. But on Dr. Glisson's

\* It is to be observed, that Dr. Whistler had written a treatise on the rickets five years before this was published; so that this specification of time is not without a particular purpose.



finishing his, which contained an investigation of the cause of the disease, to the satisfaction of the other two, but with many opinions peculiar to himself, they changed their design, and committed to him the planning of the whole work, that all its parts might be congruous and dependent on each other. This Glisson accepted, on the condition that they would still assist him with their advice and judgment, and contribute their own observations. In this manner was the work composed.

THE *history of the disease* informs us that it appeared, about thirty years before the writing of this treatise, in the counties of Dorset and Somerset. From hence it gradually spread over all the southern and western parts of the kingdom, but was scarcely then commonly known in the north. The vulgar name universally used for it was the rickets; yet on the closest enquiry, the author of this name could never be discovered. Its affinity with the later invented scientific Greek name *rachitis* was the cause of much debate, some supposing the unknown author of the name had, from  
 observation

observation of the affection of the spine, given it a denomination expressing that circumstance by an English word derived from the same Greek root; others, with more probability, perhaps, that it was a merely casual coincidence.

THE treatise itself begins with an account of the appearances on opening the bodies of those who died of this disease. It is therefore one of the first specimens of that investigation of diseases by anatomy, which has since in many instances been pursued with great advantage; and certainly, as far as it can be pursued, lays the surest foundation for reasonings concerning their nature and method of cure.

THE subsequent deductions, which are made with all the forms of scholastic method, are;  
“ That the primary and radical essence of the disease consists in a cold and moist distemperature, with a defect and torpor of the innate spirits in the constitution of the parts affected. That the parts primarily affected are, the spinal marrow after its exit from the skull;

skull; all the nerves proceeding from it; and all the membranes and fibres to which these nerves go. That the tone of the parts is too lax, soft and flaccid, and the irritability of the arteries defective." Under the enquiry, why England is more subject to this disease than other countries, and whether it be really vernacular here? it is observed, "that indeed the climate of England, by its cold and moist temperature, favours such a disease; but that since other countries are at least equally under the influence of this temperature, its peculiar frequency in England may more probably be ascribed to temporary and occasional causes, and that therefore the rickets are not properly vernacular in this country." This opinion has been confirmed by later experience, which has rendered obsolete the appellation of the *English disease*, by which the rickets were first distinguished in foreign countries; and has shewn that other climates are at least as much adapted to their production as that of this island.

THE practice recommended in this treatise is judiciously accommodated to the theory of  
its

its nature and cause; and although overloaded with medicinal articles, many of them very compound, according to the fashion of the times, yet may be considered as still worthy of imitation. Rhubarb and steel are particularly recommended among the internal medicines; the latter, however, administered with particular caution. Exercise and friction are at the head of the external; but the cold bath was not yet adopted: on the contrary, a good degree of warmth in the liquors or unguents rubbed in, is approved.

It was translated into English, the year after its publication, by Philip Armin, and also about the same time by Nicholas Culpepper. The original has been several times reprinted both in England and abroad.

His next work, entitled *Anatome Hepatis*, contains a much more exact description of that *viscus* than had before appeared. Though he by no means exhausted the subject, having examined but few human livers, and those out of the body, yet he traced many parts with more accuracy than his predecessors had done.

done. The capsule of the *vena portarum* has been supposed first discovered by him, and has ever since borne his name; yet Waleus and Pecquet had seen it somewhat before, and he has only the merit of having first examined and described it with accuracy; as he likewise did the branches of the *vena portarum*, its sinus, and the bile vessels; adding a just theory of the motion of the bile. He argues against the sanguific power of the liver, and shews that the veins have not their origin from it. He subjoins many observations concerning the lymphatic vessels, and on nutrition and secretion as proceeding from the nerves; together with conjectures on the use of the spleen, and other glands. This piece, which was several times reprinted, gained him the highest reputation in the anatomical world. It appears that he made use of anatomical injections, and he has given a figure of his tube for that purpose.

His last publication, the treatise *De Ventriculo & Intestinis*, contains every thing at that time known concerning the alimentary canal, disposed in a clear method, with  
various

various new observations. In this work he gives the first idea of the nature of a simple fibre, and the irritable principle residing in the solids. He imputes the action of the heart to irritability, which he divides, according to its degree, into too great and too little, distinguishing it from sensation, and even first inventing its name. He has many remarks relative to muscular motion; and mentions the celebrated experiment, by which it is proved that the bulk of a muscle in action is diminished, rather than increased. The invention of this experiment is, however, by some attributed, upon the authority of the register of the Royal Society, to Dr. Goddard. He treats largely on the antiperistaltic motion of the intestines; and supposes, contrary to the common opinion at that time, that the intestines are not composed merely of membrane, but have a considerable quantity of glandulous *parenchyma*. He was almost the first after Fallopius who separated the *palatum molle* from the *uvula*. Numerous observations, physiological and pathological, are interspersed through the work; which, however,



ever, has, upon the whole, less anatomical merit than his description of the liver.

DR. GLISSON's largest work is a metaphysical piece, the title of which at length is

*Traſtatus de Natura Subſtantia Energetica, ſeu de Vita Naturæ, ejusque tribus primis Facultatibus*

<i>Perceptiva</i>	} <i>Naturalibus.</i>
<i>Appetitiva &amp;</i>	
<i>Motiva</i>	

It is a moſt profound and laborious performance, in the very depths of the Ariſtotelic philoſophy, with all its numerous diviſions; and though in a ſyſtem and manner now out of vogue, deſerves admiration as an extraordinary effort of the underſtanding in a man of an advanced age. In it, he ſupports the opinion that the cauſe of motion reſides in the body itſelf, and does not ſubſiſt in animals alone.

THE reſt of the Engliſh Anatomists of the *Harveian School*, as Ent, Highmore, Jolliffe,  
Z Scar-

Scarborough, were born so much later, that they do not properly come within the period prescribed to the *present part* of this work.

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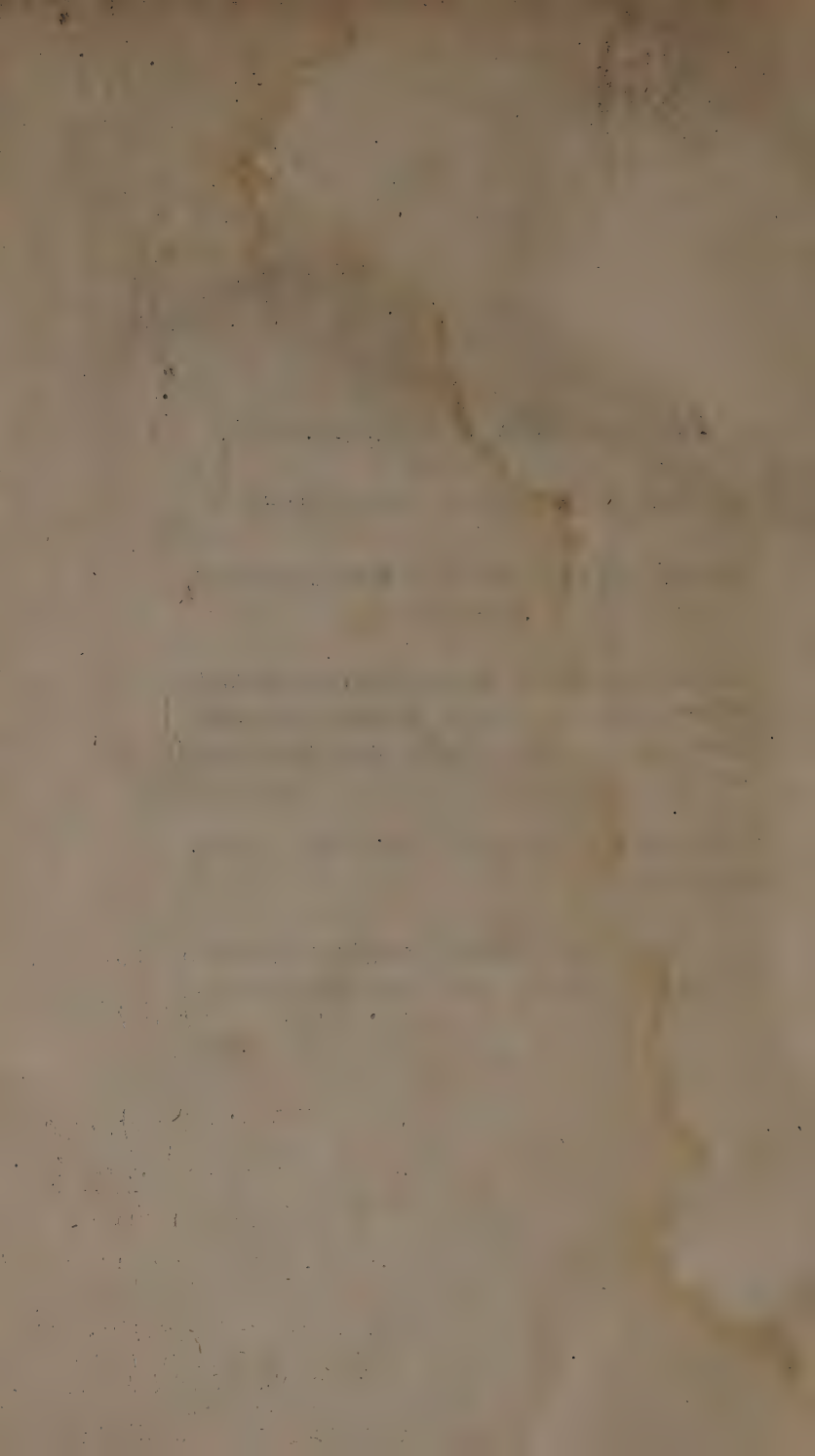
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